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Yokota Panthers' Shawn Noval

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Hurricane Charley damage: Hurricane Charley's strong winds battered more than 12,000 homes in Florida, but building experts say hardly any of those were built with strengthened construction rules the state adopted three years ago.

In the first test of the new building standards, the new requirements and thousands of new homes stood up to the strongest 145 mph winds.

Oklahoma bridge collapse: Federal safety officials on Tuesday said that an alert system could have warned a towboat crew that its pilot had fainted and prevented the deadly collapse of the Interstate 40 bridge near Webb's Fall, Okla., in 2002.

The National Transportation Safety Board also said fewer people might have died had there been a warning system to alert motorists that the Arkansas River bridge had fallen.

The Oklahoma bridge collapse is a reminder that bridges are vulnerable to both accidents and terrorist attacks.

Hospital inspector fraud: A former hospital safety inspector accused of faking his credentials, falsifying radiation tests and mis-calibrating mammography equipment at dozens of East Coast hospitals pleaded guilty Tuesday to federal fraud charges.

Perry Beale, of Fredericksburg, worked as a private consultant for more than 50 facilities in West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia.

D.C.-area sniper case: Convicted sniper John Allen Muhammad complained to a judge Tuesday that his jailers refused to let him wear underwear and have restricted his access to his legal files.

A sheriff's spokeswoman denied the claims made at the conclusion of a pretrial hearing in the second capital-murder case against Muhammad. The trial is scheduled for October.

Ohio highway shootings: A man charged in a series of highway shootings in Ohio, including one that killed a woman, is changing his plea to innocent by reason of insanity, one of his attorneys said Wednesday.

Charles A. McCoy Jr.'s change in plea from innocent, to innocent by reason of insanity, was being filed Wednesday morning in court, attorney Andrew Haney said. McCoy, 29, suffers from paranoid schizophrenia, according to court documents and his attorneys.



AP

Virginia flooding: Officials and residents look at a sinkhole caused by heavy rain from the remnants of Tropical Storm Gaston in Richmond, Va. The unexpectedly heavy and fast down-pour led to widespread flooding that left six dead and devastated a historic neighborhood.

McCoy is charged in shootings that occurred from October through February, including the death of a 62-year-old woman in November.

War on terrorism

Slain Nepalese hostages: Nepal's government imposed an indefinite curfew and appealed for calm Wednesday after thousands of demonstrators ransacked a mosque and clashed with police in the capital to protest the slaying of 12 Nepalese hostages by Iraqi militants.

Protesters also attacked the offices of at least two dozen agencies that send workers abroad, throwing furniture and documents into the streets and burning buildings.

Terror suspects arrested: Pakistani authorities have arrested two terror suspects, including a man believed to be a senior al-Qaida operative, security officials and the Information Ministry said Wednesday.

The suspects, a man believed to be an Egyptian named Sharif al-Misri and another man of Middle Eastern origin, were arrested two to three days ago in the southwestern province of Baluchistan, a senior government official told The Associated Press.

Irak oil: Iraq's southern oil terminals are fully operational, with exports running at between 1.7 million and 1.9 million barrels a day, port agents and Iraqi oil officials said Wednesday.

A port agent in the Persian Gulf, speaking on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press that last week's sabotage attacks on pipelines in southern Iraq did not appear to have affected exports. The agent said the terminals in the south were fully operational.

World

Israel bus bombs: Israel is holding Syria responsible for a double suicide bombing that killed 16 people, a senior Israeli official said Wednesday, implying that Israel might retaliate.

The violent Islamic Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack Tuesday in the desert city of Beersheba, when two bombers from the West Bank city of Hebron blew themselves up seconds apart in two buses. Raanan Gissin, a senior aide to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, pointed to Syria. He said Hamas leaders operate out of Damascus.

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Support Center steps in when sailors ship out

BY GREG TYLER
Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — Much of this base seems dedicated considering that about 2,000 sailors attached to the Essex Amphibious Group deployed last week; however, the Fleet and Family Support Center is a hub of activity, even busier than when the ships are in port.

The FFSC's services are essential for spouses and dependents of the deployed servicemembers.

"We are known in part for doing a lot of pre-deployment briefs and for sending FFSC staff to meet the ships later as they come back, providing information after a long deployment," said Jerry Havens, chief of community services at Sasebo's FFSC, and a retired command master chief petty officer.

"Typically, the deployments here are just for a couple of months at a time, but this could prove to be quite lengthy," he said.

"When they return from a long deployment, there are a number of issues that need to be addressed... a lot of conflicting expectations. We offer information on topics like restoring intimacy



Jerry Havens is chief of community services at Sasebo Naval Base's Fleet and Family Support Center in Japan.

in the marriage and dealing with children [who] may have changed dramatically since the deployment started," Havens said.

FFSC also offers a range of services for those who remain on base while their servicemember spouses are deployed. "We mar-

ket our services to ameliorate the stress and problems that remain behind when our sailors are on deployment," he said.

Social, educational and religious programs in the military have faced mandated budget cuts to offset the costs of the war in Iraq, Havens said. "We, too, have had to endure some budget cuts. But what you have to remember is that the Navy's focus is on ships at sea."

"The shore establishments are there to support the ships. And supporting families helps the Navy do that."

Navy FFSC survey statistics report that Navy leaders say they're most likely to refer sailors to FFSC who have problems in the following areas: financial concerns (34 percent), spouse abuse (33 percent), child abuse or neglect (30 percent), sexual assault (28 percent) and relationship problems (23 percent).

The same survey asked leaders which servicemember issues they needed the most help in trying to solve, and the answers were similar: sexual assault (31 percent), spouse abuse (30 percent), child abuse or neglect (29 percent), financial concerns (27 percent) and relationship problems (22 percent).

One aspect of FFSC is information and referral.

"Suppose a new family arrives here, and as soon as they hop off the bus, the husband is deployed and the spouse ends up walking around dazed and crying in the food court; they should come to us."

"If they don't know where to go for anything, they should come to us, and if we don't have the answer, we will do the research and refer them to the right person who does," Havens explained.

And that includes deployed sailors' wives coping with pregnancies. "It's not an easy thing, and I can be of help if I am aware of what's happening," said LaDonna Kolman-Reyes, FFSC's new parent support nurse.

"One thing we are trying to make sure of is that they don't deliver by themselves. At the least, they need someone there who is kind of a labor supporter." When the spouse is deployed, that fact alone increases her fear level and stress level. "We will be more prone to having induced labor and earlier labor."

Kolman-Reyes said she often makes home visits, maintains follow-up with new mothers and

See more local stories on Page 7

helps with all the paperwork facing any newly stationed family, which alone can be stressful.

"I'd say we have about 10 pregnant women deliver a month," she said.

Almost all the ships have some sort of family support group, she added, saying a few of them will bring meals to the homes of new mothers for a few days.

"Whatever the circumstances," Havens explained, "when people first come to the base, you treat them like absolute gold for five days, and you've won their hearts and minds for good. You've showed them that you care about them, and you care about their survival and security."

"With that in mind, for us 'word-of-mouth' becomes the best possible advertisement for our services. We want the community to think of us as a caring group of people."

"We are a caring group of people."

E-mail Greg Tyler at: tylerg@stripes.osd.mil

Second-hand shop puts community's needs first

BY NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — It had to be 90 degrees. But Sami Mumper and Epiphany Carey bent over their labors in the hot sun, sorting mounds and mounds of used linens and dishes and shoes and books and artworks and printers and vacuums and seemingly everything that everybody no longer wanted.

The two women and other volunteers for the base thrift store, Second Hand Rose, worked methodically, knowing that somebody else would need or want such items, if only they could sort it, price it and make space for it. It was early August, in the middle of PCS season, and under Mumper's new management, just about any donation of people's stuff not making the cut for relocation to the next duty station was welcome.

"People will come to us — we'll be out there with all this stuff, and they're almost a little embarrassed," Mumper said. "They'll say, 'Are you still accepting donations?'"

Mumper always tells them the same thing: "We're open arms," she said. "We consider it a blessing."

The store, operated by the Yokosuka Officers' Spouses' Club in the north corner of the base near the Navy Lodge and the Seaside Club, takes in donated goods, resells them for peanuts and turns

over its profits — \$1,300 a month or so — to the club for disbursement to base and local charities.

But even before the modest profits are made, the store does good. It gives people on base a place to dispose of things they no longer need or want. And it provides extremely inexpensive goods to people who need or want them. "It's a way for people who can't possibly afford to have nice things to get them, or to use in the interim before their things arrive," Mumper said Tuesday, as more mounds of items piled up on her doorstep.

"We've got some brand new shoes," Mumper said. "We got a snowboard in today. It's in its case."

Inside the store's five rooms was a bazaar of useful, sometimes idiosyncratic items. Among the household goods were Sony speakers for \$20, a 20-volume encyclopedia set missing only volumes 4-6, 11 and 16-19 for \$5; a floor lamp for \$20 and a fancy Krups coffee maker and espresso machine, missing only its carafe, for \$20. And just in case someone needed a box of billiard balls, they were there, too.

Good, quality toys sell for just a few bucks. Quality golf clubs are \$2 per club.

The store also sells children's and adult clothing for what usually about \$2 a piece, and on the second Saturday of each month, they have a bag sale: A grocery bag, full of all the clothes from the

"bag room" a shopper can stuff inside, goes for \$5.

Still, said Carey, store assistant manager, some customers want to haggle, and some even have been caught stuffing non-bag-room clothes — the store also sells a few higher-priced items, such as a blue, beaded cocktail dress for \$50 — into their bags.

Similarly, the store sells uniforms — a set of enlisted whites recently went for less than \$10, new they cost more than \$30 — and staff moved them to keep a closer eye on them.

But Mumper never speaks ill of thieves or of people who might view the store as an easy way to be rid of trash or donate items that can't be sold. Most used linens Mumper sends to the base animal shelter; excess luggage goes to security for dog training. And when she just can't fit another space heater into the store, she remembers the story she heard about the young military wives who one day in Iraq found their children with their children because their houses were so cold. So she puts the heater over by the Dumpster and, she said, "pray that someone takes it before it goes into the garbage."

And Mumper, whose last year was hospice chaplain in Texarkana, Texas, still exhibits reserves to security for dog training. And when she just can't fit another space heater into the store, she remembers the story she heard about the young military wives who one day in Iraq found their children with their children because their houses were so cold. So she puts the heater over by the Dumpster and, she said, "pray that someone takes it before it goes into the garbage."



JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

Lailani Ong, right, rings up a customer's purchase at Second Hand Rose on Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan. During the PCS season the shop sees an increase of donated items and is a great place to purchase inexpensive used items.

of the women going through a particularly bad assortment remarked, "Well, thank you for your garbage."

"At the same time I picked up this box," Mumper said. "Everything in it was folded so nice and neatly. And you could smell the Downy. It was so from the heart. They wanted somebody who was going without to have what had been their best. Tears just came to my eyes."

Mumper views her work in the store as a way to help not only the military community but the broader one as well, she said. She's particularly happy that some of the money earned at the store goes to a local orphanage. But some days, she gets an instant return.

Tuesday, Petty Officer First Class David Hackley was shopping at the store, where, he says, he likes to "peer in" from time to time to see what's new. Tuesday, he saw a clock, a replication of a piece of the Vietnam War Memorial with the names of the dead carved into the black granite. He wanted it for his office wall. He asked how much it was, and since it hadn't been priced yet he was referred to Mumper.

"Do you promise you won't ever sell it or trash it?" Mumper asked him.

Hackley said yes, he promised. "You may have that piece," Mumper said to a very surprised pet officer.

"God bless," Hackley said.

E-mail Nancy Montgomery at: montgomery@stripes.osd.mil

Renaming of camps in Iraq confusing for air evacuation teams

Crews say new monikers creating problems when trying to move wounded out of danger

BY LISA BURGESS

Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — Baghdad's Green Zone, now known as the International Zone, may be the best-known name change of a major coalition base.

But other U.S. camps around Iraq are shifting monikers as well, which air evacuation teams say is causing them problems when they are trying to fly wounded troops out of danger.

"They should just pick names, and have someone say, 'OK, that's it,'" said Sgt. Donald Marten, a medic for the 45th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) from Ansbach, Germany, who is now in Tallil, Iraq. "No more changes."

Although pilots use ground controllers and grid coordinates to help them get to their destinations, air evacuation pilots memorize basic routes to various camps in their sectors. Flying skills save lives because severely wounded patients must receive crucial care before "the golden hour" ends, trauma medical staffs said. If a patient can get to a well-equipped critical-care facility within 60 minutes, his chances of survival are drastically improved.

So far air evacuation flight crews in Iraq, every minute counts. It takes about seven minutes for the 45th to get a helicopter off the ground. Flight time to a casualty averages seven minutes, and it takes another seven minutes to get to the hospital in Baghdad's International Zone, according to one of the 45th's pilots-in-charge, Capt. Gerald Bonner.

So having to go back and check with a flight coordinator to make sure that the crew is flying to the camp it thinks it's supposed to be going — only to find it is headed for the wrong place — can cost precious minutes and, at possibly lives, the air crews said.

But crews have no say over when a base can change its name, which could be for a number of reasons. For example, Forward Operating Base Headhunter in Baghdad is now officially FOB Independence, according to Capt. Victor Scharstein, a spokesman for the 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment.

Task force leaders decided to change the name to "something less aggressive-sounding," Scharstein said.

One specialist with the 153rd Infantry of the Arkansas

National Guard, which is part of the 1-9 Cavalry, said he is "not crazy" about the new name.

"We [patrol] one of the worst sectors" in Baghdad, said Hafa Street, where attacks on U.S. convoys are so common that they are the rule whenever troops venture out on missions, not the exception, the specialist said.

The soldier, who did not give his name, said changing the name of a camp is not going to change the way insurgents view the U.S. military. "I don't think it is going to make them suddenly decide,

"Oh, OK, they're cool!"

Other posts are going through a re-labeling because the original name came from Operation Iraqi Freedom I units, which have since headed

home.

Those early names may have plenty of historical meaning to their occupants, such as the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment's Camp Muleskinner in Baghdad, but not to their successors.

Furthermore, some camps have their names changed to honor troops killed in Iraq.

For example, Camp Muleskinner was renamed Camp Cuervo by the 2nd ACR in honor of Pfc. Rey D. Cuervo of the unit's 1st Squadron, who died Dec. 28.

Two 1st Cavalry soldiers said Wednesday they think that any camps named after fallen troops should honor soldiers or Marines who are part of units currently deployed. But the soldiers asked not to be named because they did not want to seem disrespectful of their comrades' sacrifice, regardless of the unit.

Finally, if some senior officers and coalition officials in Iraq have their way, all the coalition bases in Iraq may adopt English transliterations of Arabic names (not Arabic script), said one 1st Cavalry staff officer who asked not to be named.

Advocates of the change believe that locals would be more comfortable and feel less "occupied" if coalition bases had Arabic monikers, the officer said.

While the idea is in the preliminary "kicking it around" stage, the officer said the notion concerns him.

"You think it's confusing now," he said. "Arabic is a difficult language for most of us. We are still struggling with the basic [Arabic phrases]."

"Change the bases to 'al-what-ever-this' or 'al-what-ever-that' ...," he shrugged.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: burgess@stripes.osd.mil

7 truck drivers freed in Iraq

Gunmen fire on convoy of former council member Chalabi

By BASSEM MROUE

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Militants in Iraq freed seven foreign truck drivers Wednesday after holding them six weeks, while Muslims united behind calls for the release of two French reporters captured by a separate group demanding that France revoke a ban on Muslim head scarves in schools.

Also Wednesday, gunmen shot at a convoy carrying former Iraqi Governing Council member Ahmad Chalabi, wounding two bodyguards, as he returned from Najaf to attend the first meeting of Iraq's 100-member National Council, which is to act as a watchdog over the interim government and help shepherd the nation to elections. The council was formally sworn in at the Baghdad convention center, in a ceremony marked by a nearby mortar attack that injured one person, the U.S. military said.

Port agents and Iraqi oil officials said Iraq's southern oil terminals were fully operational and exports through them were running at between 1.7 million and 1.9 million barrels a day. There had been conflicting re-

ports earlier in the week over whether new attacks on oil facilities had shut down shipments.

Hostage-taking has been one of the tactics used by militants waging a 16-month-old campaign of sabotage, assassinations and bombings seeking to destabilize Iraq and drive out coalition forces and reconstruction workers. Some kidnappers also have taken hostages in an effort to extort ransom from their families and companies.

The Kuwaiti and Gulf Link Transport Co. said it paid \$500,000 to secure the release of its seven employees — three Kenyans, three Indians and one Egyptian — on Wednesday, a day after a video surfaced on a militant Muslim Web site showing the purported killing of 12 Nepalese workers kidnapped in Iraq.

The men, who were abducted on July 21, were freed after a team of company employees drove under armed guard to an unspecified location in Iraq where the drivers were being held to pay the ransom, KGL chief executive Said Dashti said.

"They (the kidnappers) were not trying to make a political statement. They were purely ex-

ortionists," Dashti said shortly after the freed hostages landed in Kuwait.

The seven men had been kidnapped by a group calling itself The Holders of the Black Banner, which demanded the truckers' home governments pull all their citizens out of Iraq and that their Kuwaiti employer withdraw as well. It later also demanded that Iraq prisoners in Kuwaiti and U.S. prisons be freed and compensation be paid to victims of fighting in Fallujah. The group repeatedly extended a deadline hanging over the hostages as local mediators worked on a deal for their release.

The French hostage crisis persisted, with Arab leaders and Muslims worldwide trying to help save journalists Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot, who disappeared Aug. 19 on their way from Baghdad to the southern city of Najaf. Their Syrian chauffeur also vanished.

A group calling itself the Islamic Army of Iraq claimed to be holding the two, demanding France abolish its ban on Muslim head scarves in public schools. French leaders refused, insisting the ban would take effect when schools open their fall term on Thursday.

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Hundreds held hostage at Russian school

BY MUSA SADULAYEV

The Associated Press

BESLAN, Russia — Attackers wrapped in suicide-bomb belts raided a school in a region bordering Chechnya, seizing up to 400 hostages — including scores of students welcoming the new school year — and threatening to kill captives or blow up the building if it was stormed by encircling Russian troops.

Authorities established contact with the hostage-takers hours after the raid, in which authorities said at least two people were killed. The ITAR-Tass news agency put the death toll at eight.

Camouflage-clad troops carrying heavy-caliber machine guns scrambled into positions around Middle School No. 1 in the North Ossetian town of Beslan. About 1,000 people, mostly parents, crowded outside police cordons demanding information and accusing the government of failing to protect their children.

One girl lay wounded on the grounds near the school, but emergency workers could not approach because the area was coming under fire, said regional Emergency Situations Minister Boris Dzagoyev. In a tense standoff, the militants placed a sniper on an upper floor of the building, and throughout the day the Russian media report-



Russian soldiers rescue a child Wednesday after more than a dozen attackers carrying guns and wrapped in suicide-bomb belts seized a school and held hundreds hostage in the Russian region of North Ossetia. AP

ed sporadic gunfire and the sound of explosions coming from the building.

The hostage-taking came less than 24 hours after a suicide bomber detonated explosives outside a Moscow subway station,

killing at least nine people, and just over a week after near simultaneous explosions caused two Russian planes to crash, killing all 90 people on board.

The string of attacks, widely suspected to be the work of sepa-

ratist Chechen rebels or their sympathizers, come as a blow to President Vladimir Putin, who pledged five years ago to crush the rebels but instead has seen the insurgents increasingly strike civilian targets beyond Chech-

nya's borders with deadly effect.

"In essence, war has been declared on us, where the enemy is unseen and there is no front," Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov said to reporters before the hostage-taking.

Putin was in Moscow to deal with the unfolding crisis, which officials said killed at least two people — one of them a parent who resisted an attacker.

ITAR-Tass, citing local hospitals, said one person died at the scene and seven in hospitals. Regional Emergency Situations Minister Boris Dzagoyev put the death toll at four, and Interfax cited a health official as also saying four people were killed, but the emergency ministry later said the toll was two.

The school seizure began after a ceremony marking the first day of Russia's school year, a big event in which students, often accompanied by parents, arrive at school carrying bouquets of flowers for their new teacher. The school covers grades one through 11, but Dzagoyev said that most of the children taken hostage were under 14 years old.

At least 12 children and one adult managed to escape after hiding in the building's boiler room during the raid, said Ruslan Ayaymov, spokesman for North Ossetia's Interior Ministry. Media reports suggested that as many as 50 children managed to flee in the chaos of the raid.

U.N. report calls for larger international presence in Sudan

BY EDITH M. LEDERER

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — A U.N. report on Wednesday called for a quick increase in the international monitoring force in Sudan's western region of Darfur, saying the government has not stopped attacks against civilians or disarmament marauding militias.

On July 30, the council gave the government 30 days to demonstrate that it was taking action to curb Arab militias accused of attacking, raping and killing thousands of black villagers in Darfur, and improve security and humanitarian access. It threatened punitive economic and diplomatic measures if Khartoum didn't move quickly.

The report to the U.N. Security Council by Secretary-General Kofi Annan cites "some progress" by the government and does not mention or recommend sanctions.

But it makes clear that much more needs to be done as soon as possible to provide security for the more than 1.2 million "terrorized and traumatized" Sudanese who have fled their homes in the western desert region to escape the violence.

Annan's report said a U.N. plan

presented to the African Union provides a blueprint for an expanded international presence but gave no figures. Currently, the organization has 80 military observers protected by about 300 soldiers in Darfur to monitor a rarely observed cease-fire signed in April.

U.N. diplomats indicated that the U.N. plan called for about 3,000 peacekeepers, but stressed that the final decision was up to the African Union. The 53-nation group, currently headed by Nigeria, is expected to make its recommendation in the coming days, the diplomats said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Last month, the African Union proposed sending nearly 2,000 peacekeepers, an offer strongly supported by the United States but initially rejected by the Sudanese government.

In his overall assessment, Annan said that 30 days after the council adopted its resolution, and after 18 months of conflict, "the government of Sudan has not been able to resolve the crisis in Darfur, and has not met some of the core commitments it has made."

"Attacks against civilians are continuing and the vast majority of armed militias has not been disarmed," the report said.



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Alleged Army deserter says he will surrender

BY JOSEPH COLEMAN
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Accused U.S. Army deserter Charles Jenkins said Wednesday he will surrender to the American military and face charges outstanding since he vanished from his unit in South Korea nearly 40 years ago.

Separately, in an interview published in the Hong Kong-based magazine Far Eastern Economic Review, Jenkins was quoted as saying he despised the North Korean regime and tried to escape in 1966.

Jenkins is accused of abandoning his Army unit in January 1965 and defecting to communist North Korea.

His offer to surrender, in a statement released by the Japanese government, was a major step toward solving a diplomatic quandary between U.S. military officials eager to prosecute him, and Tokyo, which hopes to win him leniency so he can live with his wife in Japan.

The 64-year-old North Carolina native gave no precise timetable for his surrender, saying only that he expected to be healthy

enough to leave the hospital where he has been since July "very shortly."

"I will soon voluntarily face the charges that have been filed against me by the U.S. Army," Jenkins said in the statement which he signed "Charles Robert Jenkins, Sergeant, United States Army."

Desertion carries a maximum life penalty. Jenkins also could face charges of aiding the enemy and encouraging other soldiers to desert their posts. Speculation has mounted that he will attempt a plea-bargain to reduce his punishment.

Jenkins is married to Hitomi Soga, a Japanese citizen who was kidnapped by North Korean agents in 1978 and taken to the communist state to train spies in Japanese language and culture. She was allowed to return to

Japan in 2002, but Jenkins and their two daughters stayed behind.

The U.S. military welcomed Wednesday's announcement.

"Sgt. Jenkins faces serious charges and we have long contended that he needs to avail himself of the military justice system," said Col. Victor Wazinski, spokesman for U.S. Forces Japan. The Far Eastern Economic Review article, published Wednesday, cited legal documents filed on Jenkins' behalf saying that he tried to flee from North Korea in 1965. In an interview from his hospital room he told the magazine that both he and his wife opposed the regime.

The report said Jenkins refused to discuss whether he was guilty of desertion or if he was kidnapped by North Korea as his family has claimed. Citing a legal document, FEER said Jenkins admitted being guilty of one of the charges against him, but did not specify which one.

The report said he would base his legal defense in part on claims that he cooperated with the communist regime to avoid the death penalty and keep his family together.



Jenkins

29 N. Koreans seek asylum at Japanese school in Beijing

BY ELAINE KURTENBACH
The Associated Press

BEIJING — A group of 29 people claiming to be North Korean asylum-seekers forced their way through a fence into a Japanese school in Beijing on Wednesday, a Japanese Embassy official said.

The group of 11 men, 15 women and three children broke in around 10:30 a.m., said the Beijing-based official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

"Students were told to stay in their classrooms when school officials discovered what had happened," he said.

The group was taken to the embassy's visa section, where they were being questioned.

In Tokyo, the top government spokesman, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda, said it was "highly likely" that they were defectors from North Korea who want to leave for a third country.

"It may take some time to identify who they are," Hosoda said.

"We will listen to what they

want to do and respond based on humanitarian considerations," Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi later told reporters. He said the incident wouldn't affect Japan's ongoing talks with North Korea about establishing diplomatic relations.

"They are two separate matters," he said.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said police were investigating.

Wire-cutters, four chairs and a ladder were lying by a hole in the chain-link fence, which separates the school from an empty lot that used to be an international school. A woman's pink sandal was caught in fencing near the hole.

"There were so many of them that, to be honest, I was surprised," Hiroshi Takahashi, principal of the school, said at a news conference broadcast in Japan by the public television network NHK.

Thousands of North Koreans fleeing starvation and repression in their communist nation have passed through China, most heading for South Korea. Last year, the number reached 1,285, up from 1,140 in 2002.

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Waste disposal site awaits EPA permit approval

BY GERALD GOGUE

Special to Stars and Stripes

GUAM — Andersen Air Force Base officials are seeking an Environmental Protection Agency permit so the base can operate a hazardous waste management facility.

The facility would be within the boundaries of the base, extending from the far end of Tarague Beach and ending just before Tagua Point. Officials have used the area for emergencies and training, situations exempt from permit regulations.

The Air Force wants to use the site as an explosive ordnance disposal range — an open burning/open detonation unit for the treatment of hazardous wastes such as waste ammunition and waste explosives.

The permit defines the purpose and to what capacity the facility may function as well as providing operation and maintenance procedures. The permit also addresses possible environmental concerns and highlights Air Force and EPA guidelines to ensure the facility remains ecologically friendly.

After several meetings between EPA and Air Force officials, a draft permit was written and is being offered to the public for review and commentary.

"Andersen has met every provision and compliance stated within the permit," said Michael O'Mallan, an EPA environmental specialist and one of two officials involved in issuance of the permit.

"I am not aware of any formal objections to the permit or the creation of this facility voiced by any member of the local populace at this time," O'Mallan said.

The EPA will hold a final public hearing on the permit at 5 p.m. Oct. 13 at Guam's EPA conference room, 17-3304 Mariner Avenue, Tiyan.

The public comment period is scheduled to end Sept. 26. Copies of the permit can be obtained at the EPA Administrative Office.

To comment, submit questions or concerns in writing to: Guam Environmental Protection Agency, PO Box 22439, GMF, Barrigada, Guam 96923. Call the EPA at 671-475-1658/9 for more information.

Kuni-zakai Festival planned

MISAWA, Japan — Northern Japan's summer festival season culminates Saturday with the Kuni-zakai Festival at Lake Towada Saturday and Sunday.

Kuni-zakai Festival, meaning "land border" festival, combines parts of the best festivals from northern Tohoku Prefecture, according to Simon Bernard, Aomori Prefecture liaison.

The three bordering prefectures of Aomori, Akita and Iwate send their best floats, dancers, food and music for the two-day festival. Highlights include giant Taiko drums, musical floats made from the yew tree, the Nebuta floats and Haneto dancers from Aomori, and Akita City's bon lanterns, hoisted and juggled on a 36-foot bamboo pole.

Two different festivals are held each day. The afternoon festival is from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and runs from Route 103 down main street along Lake Towada. The evening festival is from 6:50 to 9:20 p.m. in Yatsumiya's main parking area.

Lake Towada is about a two-hour drive west of Misawa Air Base. Call Four Seasons Travel at DSN 226-3555 for more information.

Sakana Pool closure

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The Sakana Pool will be closed Saturday and will reopen Sunday at 10 a.m., officials said.

The outdoor pool's final summer event takes place Monday with the 7th Annual Dog Days of Summer, when dogs and humans will be allowed to swim together from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Call DSN 225-6133 for more information.

Yokota club changes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The Yokota Enlisted Club will be closed Thursday until 1 p.m. for a scheduled power outage, 374th Services Division officials said.

Workers will trim trees around the facility in an effort to prevent power outages during storms or high winds. Lunch will not be served.

The California State Admission Day lunch buffet

has been moved to Sept. 16. That's when club members who are California residents can get a free Italian lunch buffet.

Phi Delta Kappa furniture sale

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — The base's Phi Delta Kappa organization will hold a Korean furniture sale Sept. 18 and 19 to raise money for scholarships.

The sale runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 18 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 19 in the Sollars Elementary School multipurpose room. Cash or checks will be accepted.

Sale funds are to go to support academic scholarships for Edgren High School seniors and military members or spouses pursuing a degree in education. Last year, the group gave \$1,000 in scholarships to two high school seniors.

Phi Delta Kappa is a professional organization for educators.

Call Patricia Rzenik at DSN 226-3933 or Carol Powell at DSN 226-3933 for more information.

Coke cleared in Seoul cavity suit

A Seoul court has rejected a South Korean man's efforts to get \$1 million in compensation for dental work from the Coca-Cola Bottling Co.

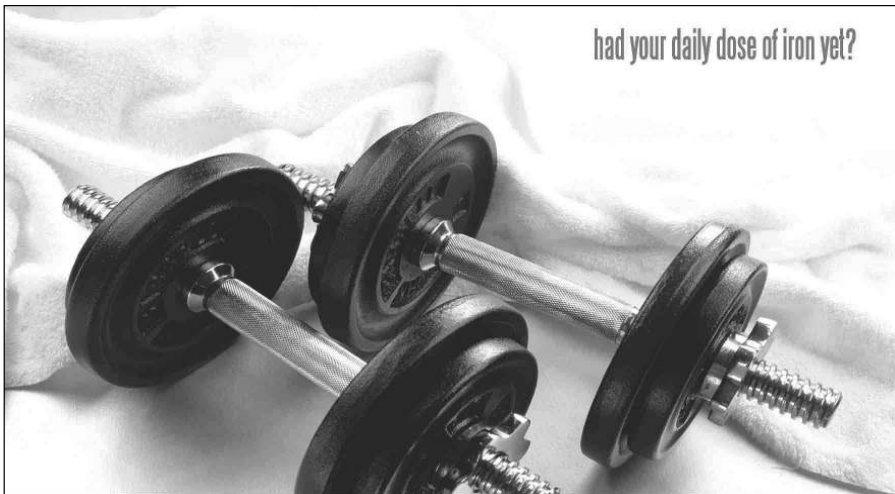
Lee Chul-ho, who runs a civic group that promotes lawsuits against corporations, filed suit in September 2002, claiming the one to three bottles of Coke he drank every day since high school led to his dental woes. Lee said he lost 15 teeth during his 30-year Coke habit. In his lawsuit, Lee claimed he repeatedly tried to stop drinking the soda but couldn't because he became addicted.

In addition to the \$1 million, Lee wanted the company to label its products with a warning about potential risk to teeth.

In rejecting his lawsuit, the Seoul court wrote, "There is no evidence to prove the plaintiff's dental problems were caused by one certain beverage. The problems seemed to have been caused by both a lack of dental hygiene and other miscellaneous causes."

From staff reports

had your daily dose of iron yet?



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Cheney takes center stage at convention

BY TOM RAUM
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Vice President Dick Cheney appealed Wednesday for another four years for the Bush administration, saying "we are eager for the work ahead."

Thousands of people waving pink fliers reading "The Next Pink Slip Might Be Yours!" formed a symbolic unemployment line stretching three miles from Wall Street to Madison Square Garden to protest President Bush's economic policies.

In prepared remarks to the Republican National Convention, Cheney said this year's presidential election comes at one of the nation's "defining moments."

"And on the question of America's role in the world, the differences between Sen. Kerry and President Bush are the sharpest, the stakes for the country are the highest," Cheney said.

Meanwhile, Bush's chief strategist, Karl Rove, said the Bush-Cheney campaign asked a federal court in Washington to force an end to political ads by outside groups known as "527" organizations. Such ads have criticized Kerry's military service in Vietnam and also attacked Bush on a variety of issues, most notably the decision to wage war in Iraq.

"We want all (such) ads and activities to cease," Rove said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Tuesday night, before a roaring audience of delegates, Bush was lauded by his wife, Laura, and California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger as a man of strength and compassion.

Bush "doesn't flinch, doesn't waver, does not back down," the Austrian-born former actor said. Added Mrs. Bush: "You can count on him, especially in a crisis."

Both the first lady and Schwarzenegger hailed Bush's leadership in terms that bordered on extravagant in speeches that did double political duty. For the first lady, that meant what aides called a glimpse at the personal side of the commander in chief, for the governor, an attempt to appeal to new and unregistered voters who are not part of the president's conservative base.

"No American president wants to go to war," said Mrs. Bush. But in a description of a commander in chief that most Americans never see, she said, "I remember some very quiet nights at the dinner table" after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"George was weighing grim scenarios and ominous intelligence and potentially even more

devastating attacks."

In his speech Wednesday night, Cheney planned to contrast Bush's "demonstrated leadership and decisiveness versus Senator Kerry's confusion of conviction — both in foreign and domestic policy — that he's demonstrated during his 20 years in the Senate," Cheney spokeswoman Anne Womack said.

Cheney also plans to discuss the importance of public schools, a vibrant economy and improved health care system, Womack said, and will argue that these things are not possible unless the nation is safe and secure.

With news on the economic front more mixed than Republicans had hoped, Cheney and keynote speaker Sen. Zell Miller, D-Ga., were expected to talk about Bush's agenda for creating jobs and encouraging people to own homes and start businesses.

Miller said he would "explain to them why this longtime Democrat, who has never voted for a Republican, by the way, in his life, is voting for this one. And it has to do with the kind of man he is."

Pennsylvania delegates put Bush over the top on Tuesday in a roll call whose outcome was never in doubt. The timing was deliberate to give the honor to Pennsylvania, the battleground state Bush has visited most as president.



Demonstrators hold up pink fliers that read "The Next Pink Slip Might Be Yours!" in a symbolic unemployment line stretching about three miles from Wall Street to Madison Square Garden on Wednesday.

Democrats pressure Kerry to step up attacks on Bush

BY RON FOURNIER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Anxiously watching President Bush's convention, Democratic leaders are urging John Kerry to step up his attack on the Republican incumbent before eroding approval ratings become a serious political problem.

The candidate and his beleaguered staff are being flooded with advice, much of it contradictory. Some party officials want Kerry to criticize the president for sitting out the Vietnam War in the Texas Air National Guard. Others say that would draw unwanted attention to accusations about Kerry's combat experience, when the focus should be on the economy and the Iraq war.

Democrats have seen Bush erase the gains that their nominee made at his convention a month ago in Boston, pulling into a tie in national polls that also show Kerry's personal image deteriorating.

In the broad scheme of things, the GOP advances may be nothing more than a political adjustment — a nudge of the pendulum, rather than a big swing. But for some Democrats, the president's momentum came as a shock, in part because Kerry's team had bragged openly that Boston had set the stage for victory.

That was their first mistake.

"It's never a good idea to get people too excited too early," said Bill Carrick, a leading Democratic strategist from California.

After raising expectations, Kerry listened to campaign consultants advising him to let surrogates respond to accusations that he exaggerated his medal-winning wartime service. They wanted him to remain above the fray, and he did, until the accusations from the group calling itself Swift Boat Veterans for Truth began tugging him down.

By the time Kerry personally struck back, calling the group a front for Bush spreading "lies about my record," the damage was done. Polls show Bush is

now favored over Kerry on questions of who is more qualified to be commander in chief and which candidate is more honest. Immediately after his convention, Kerry led on both questions.

Bush also has erased Kerry's lead on who would best deal with the economy, and has opened a gap on who voters prefer to lead the war against terror. Some Democrats pointed to Kerry's public assurances, under pressure from Bush, that he still would have voted to authorize war in Iraq had he known no weapons of mass destruction would be found there. Still, after months of criticizing the president's handling of the war, Kerry's assertion sounded like a

flip-flop to many voters, according to polling and focus groups conducted for Democrats close to Kerry.

In a race this close, the smallest shifts in voter preferences send parties scrambling. Just last week, nervous Republicans were urging Bush to unveil a robust second-term agenda to shift voters' focus from the unpopular war in Iraq. Now, with the confetti set to fall, Republicans are temporarily in line while Democrats suffer angst.

"Bush and his surrogates have been vicious and unforgiving" with the Swift boat claims, said Frank Schreck, a top party fund-raiser from Nevada, "and they have scored a lot of political points."

Schreck wants Kerry to bluntly compare war records with the president. "Why not start up there and say, 'He chose to have his father get him out of harm's way while I volunteered to risk my life?'" The Bush campaign vigorously denies the president used his family's political influence to avoid Vietnam.

Ken Brock, a Democratic consultant in Michigan, said he wants to see Kerry fight back.

"Personally, I'm for somebody coming out and saying while Bush was in the Redneck Riviera, Kerry was picking shrapnel out of his butt," he said. "There are those who want John Kerry to drop his drawers and show America the scars."

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Justice agrees terror conviction of Detroit men should be tossed

BY JOHN SOLOMON
AND CURT ANDERSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a dramatic reversal, the Justice Department acknowledges its original prosecution of a suspected terror cell in Detroit was filled with a "pattern of mistakes and oversights" that warrant the dismissal of the convictions.

In a 60-page memo that harshly criticizes its own prosecutors' work, the department told U.S. District Judge Gerald Rosen on Tuesday night it supports the Detroit defendants' request for a new trial and no longer pursue terrorism charges against them.

The defendants at most would only face fraud charges at a new trial.

The Justice Department is "concurring in the defendants' motions for a new trial" and asks the court to dismiss the first count of the original indictment charging the defendants with material support of terrorism, the government's filing said.

The department's decision came after a months-long internal investigation uncovered several pieces of evidence that prosecutors failed to turn over to defense lawyers before the trial last year.

The probe exposed deep differences within the government over the course of the case and the quality of the prosecution's evidence.

The internal investigation of prosecutorial misconduct found enough problems that there is "no reasonable prospect of winning," the government conceded, drawing back from a case once hailed by the Bush administration as a major victory in the war on terror.

The decision was hailed by lawyers for the Detroit men who were convicted last year. "We're extremely grateful," William Swor, lawyer for defendant Abdel-Ilah Elmaroudi, said. Swor said the dropping of the terrorism charges leaves the government with a "garden-variety document case" against his client. "Our work is just beginning," he said.

The memo attached to Justice's filing was critical of Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Convertino, the lead prosecutor in the case. It quotes Convertino's colleague who worked on the case as saying he would never have proceeded if he knew the problems uncovered by the internal investigation.

The government said its review also turned up more evidence calling into question the testimony of a key witness, Youssef Himimssa, a self-described scam artist who lived briefly with some of the defendants, testified that they were extremists who wanted to support attacks against the United States. Justice said it found evidence supporting the defense's claim that Himimssa's testimony "evolved over time."

In a June 2003 jury verdict hailed by the administration as the breakup of a terror cell, Karim Koutriki, 26, and Elmaroudi, 38, were convicted on terrorism and fraud charges and Ahmed Hannan, 36, was convicted of fraud. A fourth defendant, Farouk Al-Haimoud, 24, was acquitted.



Plywood is a valued commodity at the Home Depot in Florida City, Fla., on Wednesday, as residents prepare for Hurricane Frances to hit the state. The state is still trying to recover from Hurricane Charley.

500,000 Floridians told to evacuate

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Nearly a half-million people were ordered to evacuate as Hurricane Frances swirled toward Florida on Wednesday just weeks after Charley's devastating wind, threatening to deliver the most powerful one-two punch to hit a state in at least a century.

Generators were hefted off store shelves, along with water, canned goods and other emergency supplies as forecasters warned the still-strengthening Category 4 storm could hit on Labor Day weekend as early as Friday night, less than three weeks after Charley raked Florida's western coast with 145 mph wind on Aug. 13, causing billions of dollars in damage and killing 27 people.

Gov. Jeb Bush declared a state of emergency, activating the National Guard.

"I can't emphasize enough how powerful this is. If there's something out there that's going to weaken it, we haven't seen it," National Hurricane Center director Max Mayfield said.

Evacuation orders were posted for 300,000 residents in coastal areas of Palm Beach county, and 192,500 were told to leave mobile homes and low-lying areas of Brevard and Martin counties. The evacuation orders were set to take effect Thursday afternoon.

The Kennedy Space Center planned to close Thursday and Friday to allow workers time to evacuate if necessary, said NASA spokesman George Diller. Helicopters and planes left Patrick Air Force Base.

Frances was nearing the Bahamas with steady strength, but it was expected to fluctuate in intensity and could become a Category 5 storm with top sustained winds of 156 mph or higher, forecasters said. The storm could hit anywhere from Florida to South Carolina as early as late Friday. Hurricane-force winds extended up to about 80 miles from Frances' center, making it about twice the width of Charley and increasing the possibility for damage, forecasters said.

"The lessons of these storms are that all the science in the world and all the technology in the world isn't going to be able to pinpoint exactly where the storm goes," Bush cautioned.

Records from the last century show no two Category 4 storms with winds of 131-155 mph hitting a state within weeks of each other, hurricane center meteorologist Rick Knabb said.

The last time two major hurricanes hit Florida in rapid succession was 1950. Hurricane EASY hit Tampa around Sept. 4 of that year and Hurricane King hit Miami six weeks later on Oct. 17. They were Category 3 storms.

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FACES 'N' PLACES

'Macbeth' takes modern turn

Director **Geoffrey Wright** plans to give Shakespeare's "Macbeth" a contemporary backdrop in a film set amid a violent gangland war in the southern Australian city of Melbourne.

Wright directed the low-budget 1992 movie "Romper Stomper" that helped launch **Russell Crowe's** career.

His new film will star Australian actor **Sam Worthington** as the nobleman who murders **Scotland's** king.

Producer **Martin Fabiani** told The Sydney Morning Herald in Tuesday's editions the movie wouldn't be based strictly on events in Melbourne — where some 30 people have died in recent years in a violent battle between rival underworld gangs — but would draw parallels.

He hopes the film will be shot late this year or in early 2005.

Skater's costumes for auction

Costumes worn by Olympic ice-dancing champion **Christopher Dean** during his flamboyant routines with partner **Jayne Torvill** are to be auctioned for charity.

SportsAid, which raises funds for aspiring athletes, said Tuesday the auction will feature 11 of Dean's outfits, donated by Torvill, who kept them when Dean moved to the United States six years ago.

They include Dean's outfit from the pair's performance of "Barnum," which won the 1983 World Championships, and another from the 1990 Winter Olympics "Face the Music" routine, which garnered the couple a disappointing bronze medal

and led to their decision to retire from competition.

No date has been set for the auction.

There also are two replica costumes worn by Dean for their many performances of "Bolero," the thrilling dance performance that won the couple an Olympic gold medal at the 1984 **Sarajevo** games, when they scored perfect marks for artistic merit. The original outfit, in deep lilac, is in a Nottingham museum.



Torvill and Dean

say how much the auction will raise, "but something like this, in the hands of private collectors, might fetch quite a high price. We hope to raise as much as we can."

Smits to star in his own series

Jimmy Smits will return to ABC to star in his own series and produce other shows after his term as a congressman on NBC's "The West Wing" is over, ABC said.

Smits previously starred in the ABC police drama "NYPD Blue" from 1994 to 1998.

"Jimmy's a one-of-a-kind star and we

feel fortunate that he's decided to once again be part of the family," **Stephen McPherson**, president of ABC Primetime Entertainment, said Monday.

Through his El Sendero Productions, Smits will serve as executive producer of the shows that could air on ABC or other outlets owned by The Walt Disney Co. NBC announced last week that Smits will play a three-term congressman from Houston with "presidential aspirations" on "The West Wing," which returns for its sixth season on Oct. 20.

Martin Sheen plays fictional Democratic President Josiah Bartlet, now serving his second term on the political drama.



Smits

Hamm keeps his head up

Paul Hamm's not letting the gymnastics scoring controversy spoil his Olympics experience.

Dressed in jeans and a white shirt, the men's all-around champion in Athens, Greece, appeared relaxed as he helped promote a 14-city gymnastics exhibition tour that was to kick off Tuesday at the Mohegan Sun Casino in **Uncasville, Conn.**

"When I look back at my gold medal, I truly see that I was the champion," Hamm said. "And from what I've seen from the rest of the U.S. public, that's the way everyone's been feeling as well."

"Everyone I run into is saying things like

'thank you,' 'congratulations,' 'you made us proud.'"

Hamm's victory has been scrutinized ever since it was discovered that **South Korea's Yang Tae-young** should have been awarded more points based on the degree of difficulty.

Yang finished third, 0.049 points behind Hamm, who became the first American man to win gymnastics' biggest prize.

The International Gymnastics Federation has already said it won't change the results, and the International Olympic Committee has refused to even consider the idea of giving Yang a gold medal.



Hamm

Russian filmmaker wins

Russian filmmaker **Lidiya Bobrova** won two awards at the Copenhagen International Film Festival — best movie and best script — for "Grammy," a film about senior citizens being marginalized in post-Soviet Russia.

Nimrod Antal of Hungary won the award for best director for "Kontroll," **Anna Maria Muehe** of Germany won the best actress award for "Love in Thoughts" and **Luis Tosar** of Spain received a Golden Swan for best actor for "Take My Eyes," the Danish Film Institute, one of the festival's co-organizers, said Monday.

The Aug. 19-29 event, which ended Saturday, featured 112 films from around the world.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

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MOVIES

• SPORTS

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P **ESPNs Pacific Report	Pacific Report	King of the Hill Huggy carters a la tonging.	Malcolm in the Middle "Polly in the Middle" Two men want Polly (CC)	Allies: Legacy Sydney and Vaughn try (to) Brian and his daughter, Neda. (CC)	Allies: "Resurrection" Lauren steals dis- abled documents; a revelation for Syd- ney (CC)	Pacific Report	The Tonight Show (CC)	Late Show (CC)			
7	AFN-AT 5:30 Guiding Light (CC)	General Hospital (CC)	Headline News	Judge Judy (CC)	Today (CC)		Baby Looney Tunes	Rock's Modern Life	The Fairly Odd- Parents (CC)	The Brothers Gar- cia		
8	NEWS Primetime Thursday (CC)	The O'Reilly Factor (CC)	Good Morning America (CC)				Headline News	Channel One	The Early Show (CC)			
9	SPECT **\$9.00 College Football Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)		***SportsCenter				Hockey World Cup - Russia vs. United States. From the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn. (Taped)		***SportsCenter			
10	SPORTS The Simpsons Beyoncé "Sunder- dome" (CC)	Everybody Loves Raymond "Dad" Dad's birthday.	Charmed "Valhalla of the Dolls" (Part 1) (2/2) (CC)	Boston Public Attorney Ronnie Cooke surprises a new career as a teacher at Winslow High (CC)	*** Who Is Celia? Too? (2001). Comedy Christian Slater. (35) *** Jackass: The Movie (2002). Comedy Johnny Knoxville, Bam Margera, Chris Pontius, Knoxville and pals go for the gross-out in stunts and gags. R (CC)	Friends (CC)	Seinfeld "The Tip" Jerry goes to Los Angeles.	The Daily Show (CC)	Blind Date (CC)			
11	TMC ** "Course of the Pink Panther" (1983). Comedy Tad Wlass, David Niven, Robert Wagner. The world's most detective is tried to find Cousineau. PG											
24	PBS Clifford the Big Dog Project (CC)	Dragon Tales Casie tries to play (CC)	The Newshour With Jim Lehrer (CC)	Washington Week (N) (CC)	Wall Street Week (N) (CC)	Now With Bill Moyers (N) (CC)	Dead Like Me "Send in the Clowns" George decides to train her boss' nephew. (CC)	Tucker Carlson: Unfiltered (N) (CC)	Back to the Future Production Line.	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		
25	SHOW (3:30) *** "The Favor" (1994) Harley Jane Kozak. A married woman lives out her sex fantasy through a friend.		(15) *** "Housewife" (1992) Connie Lyle. A screwy waitress forces herself into an architect's life. PG (CC)	Biography "Mama Cass" Singer Cass Elliot. (CC)	Africa's Great Rivers	Wild and Dangerous	Dead Like Me "Send in the Clowns" George decides to train her boss' nephew. (CC)	Dead Like Me "The Shadow End" George decides to train her boss' nephew. (CC)	Penn & Teller: The family expands business.	Family Business Bullseye! Twelve wonderful groups. (CC)		
27	A&E City Confidential Newspapers in the Castle" A handyman shoots for a widow's million. (CC)	American Justice "Shogun Justice" Convicted murderer Michael Pardee. (CC)	To Be Announced									
28	DISC To Be Announced											
29	CHN (1:15) Bida Si Mister, Bida Si Mister		(4:45) Private I									
30	TNN Larry King Live (CC)	CNNI World News	World Sport	Business International	Asia Tonight	Good Morning Kris	Good Morning Kris	Good Morning Kris	Good Morning Kris	Good Morning Kris	Good Morning Kris	Good Morning Kris
31	GOLF *European PGA Golf Omega European Masters - First Round. From Switzerland.											
32	TLC Clean Sweep "Organization" Bring It On! Top and uniform clothes.	In a Fix "Now and Zen" A widowed mother's life is a gutted snail.	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)	While You Were Out: Los Angeles: The Lon's Dier: A woman surprises her hus- band. (CC)
34	TOON Samurai Jack	Dexter's Laboratory	Mucha Lucha	Tenn Titans	Powerpuff Girls	Cartoon Cartoon	Cartoon shorts.	Cartoon shorts.	Cartoon shorts.	Cartoon shorts.	Cartoon shorts.	Cartoon shorts.
35	ANPL The Crocodile Hunter Steve and Terri travel the hands-made fence through a western Queensland. (CC)	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals	The Planet's Fun- niest Animals
36	COM Late Night Ashton Kutcher: Rickie Lee Jones. (CC)	The Daily Show Seth Green. (CC)	Mad TV: Access Kathy Bates guest stars. "Mutter the Kids & Pets" (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)	The World Stars With Eric Phillips. (CC)
40	NGC-A The Last Voyage of the Lusitania	Toyota World of Wildlife "Fighters"	Planet Wild	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend	Search for the First Dog: A Quest to Find Our Original Best Friend
42	SPIKE Real TV	Real TV	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)
43	FOX Fame "The Comedian" Danny becomes collaborated with his career after a com- ical twist. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)	Blind Date College student and surfer date. (CC)
44	BET 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live with the Shocker.	BET.com Countdown	Cops "Test Girls Top 10 Special Edition" Stolen water. (CC)	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.
46	COURT Hollywood Heat	Body of Evidence: From the Case Files	Cops "Test Girls Top 10 Special Edition" Stolen water. (CC)	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.	Hot "Hot" (1999). Drama: Snuggles, Silke the Shocker, Gary Busby. A woman gets an inspiring rap career to inspire a gang.
48	STR-WL The Simpsons (CC)	The Drew Carey Show (CC)	Star News Focus	Just Shoot Me Show (CC)	Wrestling	Dare You	Nash Bridges (CC)	Nash Bridges (CC)	Nash Bridges (CC)	Nash Bridges (CC)	Nash Bridges (CC)	Nash Bridges (CC)
50	LIFE The Golden Girls 72 Hours' Road to the Golden Girls	The Golden Girls 72 Hours' Road to the Golden Girls	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)	Outrage in Glen Ridge" (1999). Drama Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz, Heather Matarazzo. Tennessee's ally-buffed benches accused of rape. (CC)
51	ABC-FN Full House "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.	Full House Jesse's "Gotta Dance" Stephanie wants to dance.
53	HIST True Story of the Philadelphia Experiment (CC)	Modern Marvels "Machin' Picchu" The engineering marvel of Machu Picchu, once built by the Incas. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)	Dead Men's Secrets A Japanese admiral is killed in an ambush. (CC)
54	STR-WL 1988 *** "Married to the Mob" (1988). Comedy: Marlon Brando, John Cassidy, John Cazale. (CC)	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.	(15) *** "Death Becomes Her" (1992). Comedy Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn. Two women vie for the secret to eternal life.
56	ADV I 5:30 Jack Bauer: Yokohama BayStars vs. Yakult Swallows (42) 5:50 Nink News (1) 10:00 News (1) 11:00 Music Access (42) 2:30 German Movie (2003): Wild Angel 2:45 CBS Documentary (6) 3:10 U.S. Movie (1986): F/X: Murder by Illu- sion (1:50:12) 3:35 Classic Music (1:47)	Thail Bori	Game for It	Football Fever	Shoot the Creature "Garter Snakes"	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)
59	MTV Room Raiders "Mi- ami"	Room Raiders "Mi- ami"	Direct Effect	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)	Road Rules 'Ex- treme: Chile' (CC)
60	NICK SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)	Rugrats Angelica malas Santa cut. (EI) (CC)	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp	Scaredy Camp

JAPAN TV

Morning
7:30 Disney (12)
Afternoon
5:50 News (6)
Evening
6:55 Japan Pro Ball: Yokohama BayStars vs.
Yakult Swallows (42)
7:50 Nink News (1)
10:00 News (1)
11:00 Music Access (42)
2:30 German Movie (2003): Wild Angel
2:45 CBS Documentary (6)
3:10 U.S. Movie (1986): F/X: Murder by Illu-
sion (1:50:12)
3:35 Classic Music (1:47)

JAPAN TV-B57

Morning
6:00 Top News from Around the World

6:30 Top News from Around the World
7:00 Top News from Around the World
7:30 Top News from Around the World
8:00 M.B. Cleveland Indians vs. New York
Yankees
11:00 Life Line: World Cafe: Lima
Afternoon
12:00 Nink News
12:30 Shogun Maruyama's Golf Lesson (7)
1:00 Life Line: Home: Waterfront
1:30 ABC News
2:00 PBS NewsHour
3:00 CNN News
4:00 Republican National Convention
4:00 News
5:00 Republican National Convention
6:00 Japan Pro Ball: Osaka Kintetsu Buffa-
los vs. Fukuoka Daiei Hawks
11:00 M.B. Highlights
11:50 BS News
11:50 Economic News
11:50 BS Prime Time: World Reports
12:40 MotoGP: 10th Round, Czech GP
2:00 Asian News

JAPAN TV-B511

3:50 PBS NewsHour
4:00 Asian News
5:00 Top News from Around the World
Morning
6:00 Top News from Around the World
6:30 Top News from Around the World
7:00 Top News from Around the World
7:30 Top News from Around the World
8:00 M.B. Cleveland Indians vs. New York
Yankees
11:00 Life Line: World Cafe: Lima
Afternoon
12:00 Nink News
12:30 Shogun Maruyama's Golf Lesson (7)
1:00 Life Line: Home: Waterfront
1:30 ABC News
2:00 PBS NewsHour
3:00 CNN News
4:00 Republican National Convention
4:00 News
5:00 Republican National Convention
6:00 Japan Pro Ball: Osaka Kintetsu Buffa-
los vs. Fukuoka Daiei Hawks
11:00 M.B. Highlights
11:50 BS News
11:50 Economic News
11:50 BS Prime Time: World Reports
12:40 MotoGP: 10th Round, Czech GP
2:00 Asian News

JAPAN TV-B511

3:50 PBS NewsHour
4:00 Asian News
5:00 Top News from Around the World

JAPAN TV-B511

3:50 PBS NewsHour
4:00 Asian News
5:00 Top News from Around the World

JAPAN TV-B511

3:50 PBS NewsHour
4:00 Asian News
5:00 Top News from Around the World

Afternoon
12:00 TV Series: The Sopranos
1:00 U.S. Movie (1986): Rosemary's Baby
(2:30)
3:30 French-Polish-German Movie: The
Pianist (2:30)
Evening
6:30 The Best Film: Lenny Kravitz
9:40 TV Series: Sex and the City Special: A
Farwell at 5
10:00 TV Series: Sex and the City Special: A
Farwell at 5
11:00 TV Series: Sex and the City
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JOE GRONELSKY, Editorial Editor
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITORS:
Chris Carlson, News
Brian Brown, Features
T.D. Puck, Pacific

Addresses

U.S. MAIL: Unit 45002, APO AP 96333-5002
INTERNET: MAIL: 117 Roppongi, 7-chome, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 106-0032, Japan
FAX: USN 229-3132; e-mail: (+81) (03) 3408-8936
E-MAIL: letters@starsandstripes.com
Advertising: advertising@starsandstripes.com
Marketing: marketing@starsandstripes.com
Circulation: circulation@starsandstripes.com
CENTRAL OFFICE: 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington
DC 20045-1301, Phone USN 232-7103-0900 or civ.
(+1) (202) 761-0900; Fax (+1) (202) 761-0900
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: David Mazzarella, 529 14th St. NW, Suite
350, Washington, DC 20045-1301, Phone USN 312-
761-0945 or civ. (+1) (202) 761-0945
E-mail: mazzarella@starsandstripes.com
COUNCILMAN: Joe Grunelisky, comments to: Ombudsman,
Stars and Stripes, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington,
DC 20045-1301, Phone civilian (+1) (404) 384-6032; fax
(+1) (404) 384-6036; or e-mail: ombudsman@starsandstripes.com

How to call us

GENERAL MANAGER: USN 229-3131; civ. (+81) (03) 3408-9428
REPORTS: FORUM: 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington,
DC 20045-1301, e-mail: letters@starsandstripes.com (+81) (03)
3408-9428; fax (+81) (03) 3408-8936
SPORTS: Dave Omsund, USN 645-7433; civ. (+81) (88)
933-2702; e-mail: omsund@starsandstripes.com

For business, advertising and circulation numbers,
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News Bureaus

Japan Bureau Chief: Sid Acker, Unit 45002, APO AP
96333-5002, tel. USN 229-3357; civ. (03) 3404-9423; fax
USN 229-3271; e-mail: (+81) (03) 3408-8936; e-mail
sid@starsandstripes.com
Korea: Jennifer H. Swan, tel. USN 229-2550; civ. (01170)
229-3311; e-mail: jhswan@starsandstripes.com
Saskatchewan: Greg Dylis, tel. 476, Box 1126, PPO AP
0822-1126, and e-mail: USN 229-3823; civ. (+81) (03)
3408-9428; e-mail: gtdylis@starsandstripes.com
Tokyo: John Miller and Sid Acker, tel. USN 229-3105
and 229-3132 or civ. (+81) (03) 3404-9442; fax
USN 229-3271; e-mail: gtdylis@starsandstripes.com
Yokosuka: Nancy Montgomery, tel. USN 241-2874 or civ.
(+81) (03) 3401-8926; fax USN 241-2876; e-mail:
nmontgomery@starsandstripes.com
Yokosuka Camp Zama: Camp JFA, Vince Little, Unit 5058 APO AP
96333-5002, tel. USN 229-3132; civ. (+81) (03) 3408-8936
50523 Fax: DA 225-7152; e-mail: little@starsandstripes.com
Okinawa: David Allen, Fred Zimmerman, Chagui Sumida and
Mark Kunkin, Camp Camp USN 61515, APO AP 96374,
tel. USN 645-3807 or civ. (+81) (88) 893-7500; fax
645-9155; e-mail: okinawa@starsandstripes.com
Korea Bureau Chief: Joseph Gordenio, Unit 15334, APO AP
96328-9423, tel. USN 271-7132; or civ. (+82) (2)
270-7132; e-mail: gordenio@starsandstripes.com
Oman Air Base: Franklin Fisher, Unit 15334, APO AP 96278, tel.
780-128-2751 or civ. (+968) 645-9459; fax USN
780-1333; e-mail: fisher@starsandstripes.com
Seoul: Jimmy Kirk, Chae Song-won and Jennifer Rickover, Unit
15334, APO AP 96205-9423, tel. USN 721-7131, 7132 or
721-7134, civ. (+82) (02) 2270-7132/7134; fax
721-7133; e-mail: kirk@starsandstripes.com
Washington DC: USN 229-3132; civ. (+1) (202) 761-0900
721-7132 and 721-7134; civ. (+82) (02) 2270-7132/7134;
fax USN 721-7133; e-mail: washington@starsandstripes.com
WASHINGTON DC
Bureau editor: Patrick Dickson, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350,
Washington DC 20045-1301, tel. (202) 761-0900
e-mail: dickson@starsandstripes.com
Sandra Jantz and Lisa Bergeson, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350,
Washington DC 20045-1301, tel. civ. (+1) (703) 695-4732; fax
civ. (+1) (703) 695-8366;
e-mail: jantz@starsandstripes.com, bergeson@starsandstripes.com

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There is a drop-off in quality

In his Sept. 1 letter "Everyone can im-
prove," Phillip Clinton Graue stated that
he was not in agreement with a previous
letter writer "Take responsibility,
NCOs (Aug. 21) who mentioned that the
Reserve and the National Guard needed
to police their back yards too, as far as
noncommissioned officer responsibility.
Mr. Graue appeared to take serious and
grievous offense at that statement.

I have served for more than 25 years of
active duty in the Army, and some of that
was with the National Guard as a New
Equipment Training Team Detachment
instructor. Imagine my shock when we in-
structors were forced to teach senior
leaders, both officers and enlisted, how
to do such basics as map reading and
radio operations—this being in a field ar-
tillery unit!

It is totally unreasonable to expect a
National Guard or Reserve unit to be able
to maintain a place within the band of
excellence comparable to a full-time
active duty unit. But on the other hand, it
is not unreasonable to expect that basic
soldiering be adhered to and enforced.

Mr. Graue should look at the average
haircut standard and uniform standard
among his peers in the Guard/Reserve.
These are among the factors that cause
the active-duty military to sneer at our
brothers and sisters in the Guard/Re-
serve.

It is politically correct to speak of all
the equality between/among the active
/Reserve/Guard but, in truth, none
are truly equal until deployed to a com-
bat theater.

After a Guard/Reserve unit serves in
combat for six months, then its members
are the technical and tactical equals of
the active force. Not before.

Master Sgt. Dan Nolen
Camp Casey, South Korea

Bush got word, did right thing

In response to the Aug. 30 letter
"Bush's behavior on 9/11," the author
criticizes President Bush's actions on
Sept. 11, 2001. Sure, the writer has the
"facts," but that's all. When told about
the first crash [into the World Trade Cen-
ter], and during the quick conference in
the school hallway, the information he re-
ceives is that it's an accident.

President Bush then moves into a class-
room where young schoolchildren are
going through a reading lesson. It was
during this time that President Bush was
told of the second crash [into the World
Trade Center], and his aide states, "We
are under attack." President Bush,
instead of jumping up and scaring the chil-
dren, calmly has them resume their les-
son for approximately 10 minutes and po-
sitivity and tactfully makes his exit.

Doonesbury

HOLD ONTO YOUR MARK!
ACCORDING TO THIS TRAN-
SCRIPT, THE PRESIDENT WILL
NOW ATTEMPT TO COMBINE
UNIVERSITY WITH PEAS.



MY FRIEND, THE EVIL ONE'S
HATE US! THEY WANT TO DE-
STROY US BECAUSE WE
SMILE AND PRAISE OURSELVES
AND ENJOY TAX CUTS?



THEY HATE OUR JEWEL!
THEY HATE OUR ASHLINS!
THEY HATE OUR BLACKS
AND SPANISH-AMERI-
CANS! AND YES, THEY
EVEN HATE OUR WHITES!



YEAH! HE
STUCK
IT, MARK!



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Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on
editorials and columns that are published in the
newspaper, and values letters on topics of impor-
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be signed, and must include the writer's address
or base and telephone number. Please limit all
letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit
letters for length, taste and clarity.

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Readers' Forum Stars and Stripes
Unit 45002 Minato-ku
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Via fax from Japan: 03-3408-8936;
USN 229-3271

Via fax from outside Japan:
(Country code +81) 3-3408-8936;
USN 229-3271

E-mail: letters@starsandstripes.com

The other fact is that these were not
missiles, but rather commercial planes
with human beings on them. Missiles do
not have human beings on them. Can the
writer give an order that easily to shoot
down a plane that is carrying children,
mothers, sons, daughters, grandparents
and babies? If he can without any thought
process, then he's a monster.

Staff Sgt. Joseph Ahles
Camp Carroll, South Korea

Turned off by attacks

Republican re-election committees,
and their associates, are known for the
 nastiness of their campaigns against
Democratic opponents. Their recent, and
 incredible, attack on John Kerry's Viet-
 nam combat record reveals the depths of
 their nastiness and has taken the Republi-
 can Party to an all-time low.

It is encouraging, however, to hear the
 rumbblings and grumbling from a great
 many military members who are con-
 fused, dismayed and disgusted by repeat-
 ed Republican lies and attacks. It is in-
 creasingly clear that servicemembers
 are no longer willing to blindly believe or
 follow the current administration and
 will be voting for Kerry in November.

Laurel Samson
Ramstein Air Base, Germany

Give enlistees credit

What's going on with the columnists at
 The (Baltimore) Sun? In a column by its
 former Perspective editor that appeared
 in the Aug. 16 edition of Stripes ("...but
 recruitment tactics downplay real dan-
 gers"), the writer, G. Jefferson Price III,
 says military recruiters use "bait and
 switch" tactics. The writer even explains
 why "bait and switch" is, and still gets it
 wrong later on in the piece.

The author suggests that the Army of-
 fers prospective enlistees a lot of benefits
 ("bait"), and once it gets them to sign on
 the dotted line, it will "switch" and give
 them danger and classes on killing in-
 stead.

First of all, that person joining the
 Army will still retain the option of all
 those benefits listed after he or she en-
 lists. So, if they get to keep the bait,
 where is the switch? Nowhere, that's
 where.

Second, yes, being in the military is po-
 tentially dangerous, but do they really
 need to state the obvious in their adver-
 tising?

I would ask the author this: Would you
 really want someone in the military who
 didn't already know that enlisting in the
 military would mean that he or she may
 be required to give their life, or take an-
 other's life, in combat?

Every U.S. child is still required to take
 history in high school, right? The author
 seems to be assuming that every poten-
 tial enlistee who is enticed by Army ad-
 vertising is either an idiot or failed that
 history course.

All military enlistees must take the
 Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Bat-
 tery exam and sign a contract that states
 the basics of what is expected of them
 during service. They are given plenty of
 opportunities to decline service during
 the enlistment process. The military en-
 lists competent and capable men and
 women. How about giving them a little
 credit?

Tech. Sgt. Tracy Pree
Geilenkirchen, Germany

How civilians appear to others

I personally want to thank the Ameri-
 can civilian workers who contribute to
 the ongoing fight against terrorism and
 take part in Operation Iraqi Freedom. I
 do, however, have one concern that
 needs to be addressed—the appearance
 and wear of the desert camouflage uni-
 form, which many civilian workers wear.

I and many other military personnel do
 not have a problem with civilians wear-
 ing DCUs, but rather with their "person-
 al appearance" while wearing them. I re-
alize that civilian workers are not obligat-
 ed to adhere to AR670-1 (Army regula-
 tion) standards on personal appearance,
 such as proper wear of the DCU uniform
 and grooming policies covering haircuts
 and facial hair. But I would ask the cer-
tain obvious few: Please reflect upon
 your personal appearance, and remem-
ber you not only represent yourself, but
also, all Americans in this area of opera-
tion. Most of all, you along with all other
U.S. citizens represent our country, the
United States of America.

Staff Sgt. Paul Weber
Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



OPINION

Terror must never be condoned or rewarded

BY CLIFFORD D. MAY

Scripts Howard

As President Clinton might say: "It depends on what the meaning of war is."

By now, you've no doubt read all about it: President Bush told NBC's Matt Lauer that he didn't think America could win the war on terrorism. Vice presidential candidate John Edwards accused Bush of declaring defeat.

Bush then told Rush Limbaugh that what he meant to say was that the current global conflict is not like World War II. No enemy general is going to hand over his weapons in ceremonial surrender.

But that's not how the last great international struggle ended either. The Cold War — which some historians now call World War III — concluded when the Soviet Union collapsed and ordinary citizens smashed the Berlin Wall into paperweights.

In the war on terrorism — or World War IV — the Free World is being told that the ideologies that have borrowed freely from both Communism and Nazism, but which stake their claim to legitimacy on a radical interpretation of Islam and Islam's doctrine of jihad, or holy war.

Terrorism — the deliberate slaughter of civilians by combatants disguising themselves as civilians — is simply the means by which the jihadis believe they can defeat decadent, infidel democracies.

And terrorism is a weapon the jihadis believe they have all to themselves — infidels, they are confident, will not indiscriminately slaughter them and their families. Our reluctance to use this weapon is, in their view, a symptom of our weakness.

Terrorism is not a new weapon. But on 9/11, terrorists armed with hijacked passenger jets wreaked havoc on an unprecedented scale. Terrorists armed with nuclear, chemical or biological weapons would escalate such crimes to apocalyptic levels.

Some analysts believe that such an attack is all but inevitable. The only hope of preventing it: aggressively and pre-emptively

hunt down terrorists. And target dictators who support terrorists.

That, by the way, is the link between 9/11 and Saddam Hussein.

After that atrocity, Saddam had to be viewed through a sharper lens, his menace measured by a different yardstick. So, too, North Korea's Kim Jong Il and the mullahs of Iran. This seems a simple proposition, yet many otherwise-intelligent people fail to grasp it.

Winning World War IV also requires delegitimizing terrorism. Terrorism today is a thriving enterprise because for at least three decades terrorists have been rewarded. Republicans and Democrats alike have been responsible for this error. Europeans even more so.

Almost exactly 32 years ago Palestinian terrorists entered the Olympic Village in Munich, Germany, and massacred 11 innocent Israeli athletes.

That act of mass murder was not considered sufficiently serious to merit canceling the Olympics or even postponing it for a day.

The group responsible for the killings, the Palestine Liberation Organization, received more encouragement than condemnation. Two years later, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was invited to address the United Nations. The PLO was received in the General Assembly and "the question of Palestine" was introduced on the agenda.

A few years later, Arafat won a Nobel Peace Prize. Abu Daoud, the unrepentant terrorist who planned the 1972 massacres, received the Palestinian Prize for Culture.

And everyone else in the world with grievances and complaints learned the rules: Terrorism is acceptable. Terrorism works. Terrorism succeeds like nothing else. So why not employ it?

Over the years that followed, to the extent terrorists were pursued, it was less by soldiers, commandos and spies than by lawyers armed with subpoenas.

Terrorists and their masters were seldom punished. There is a name for such policies: appeasement.



Clearly we need new and better policies. Surely the United States needs to develop intelligence and clandestine services capable of ferreting out terrorists wherever they hide, train and plot.

There must be expansion of our now-tiny Special Forces, the component of the military machine best equipped to fight 21st century warfare.

A war of ideas must be fought as well. It must stop being socially acceptable to glorify terrorism (e.g., "One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter"). "They must be so desperate!" Yes, in the past, terrorism has been condoned. But morality evolves. Not so long ago, genocide, slavery and piracy also were common practices. Should that mean that we tolerate those evils forever, too? Terrorism must come to be seen as not just a crime but also a blunder. It must be demonstrated repeatedly that terrorism sets back the cause in whose name it is committed, no matter how righteous some people may believe that cause to be.

Eventually, the extremist, supremacist, totalitarian ideologies championed by Osama bin Laden, Saddam Hussein, the Iranian mullahs and others must be regarded as a dead end, figuratively and literally.

Bin Laden famously said, "When people see a strong horse and a weak horse, they naturally choose the strong horse." He understands the dynamics of public persuasion better than many State Department officials. It falls to America to lead the effort to demonstrate that freedom and democracy are the strongest horses on the track.

In the 20th century, America and its friends defeated both Communism and Nazism. There are still Communists and Nazis in the world but their movements are weak and unappealing to all but a fanatic fringe.

Memo to the candidates: This is what "win" means. Tell us you understand. Tell us you'll do what it takes.

Clifford D. May is the president of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, a policy institute focusing on terrorism.

Schwarzenegger's close-up revealed his progress

Los Angeles Times

Tony Quinn, a GOP political consultant in Sacramento, raised an intriguing possibility in a newsletter Tuesday, hours before California's governor stepped onto the podium in New York: The U.S. Constitution doesn't seem to bar Austrian-born Arnold Schwarzenegger from becoming vice president.

But it's hard to envision Schwarzenegger as No. 2 in anything, much less worry about how he could constitutionally serve if the presidency went vacant. For all the might-have-beens and could-bes, millions of Americans got a taste Tuesday night of what California knows, that Schwarzenegger is more than a caricature of his film self. He wove a compelling story of "a once-scrawny guy" coming to the United States from the stifling socialism of Austria, seeking opportunity and forging success for himself, from bodybuilder to actor to governor.

"To my fellow immigrants listening tonight, I want you to know how welcome you are in this party," he said. "We Republicans admire your ambition. We encourage your dreams."

Those words no doubt were sincere, but Schwarzenegger's promise to veto a bill that would allow illegal immigrants to obtain driver's licenses may dim the luster of his speech among Latinos. The governor does occasionally say things one

way and do them another.

In his address Schwarzenegger played the loyal warrior, another thoroughgoing moderate finding a way to call unreservedly for President Bush's re-election, praising the commander in chief in "Terminator" terms as "a leader who doesn't flinch and who doesn't waver."

He painted a dazzling picture of a prosperous, diverse, strong and generous America under Republican leadership. He emphasized

his own pro-business fiscal conservatism and left unmentioned his own awkward, to many Republican leaders, positions on abortion, stem-cell research, protection of the environment and gun control. He did say it was possible to disagree and "still be patriotic, still be good Republicans!"

Schwarzenegger's in-laws are in the enemy camp, and he worked more closely with majority Democrats in the Legislature this year than with Republicans, who op-

posed his attempts to find a middle course in closing budget gaps. He infuriated both sides with his combination of full-bore cajoling and half-funny threats.

But the job of an action hero is to get things done. The nation on Tuesday night saw the charm, chutzpah, good humor and determination that Schwarzenegger mixes to move things along, including the president's re-election bid. He even worked in a way to say "gittie men" — a line that brought delegates to their feet.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Payouts lacking

MD ANNAPOLIS — A dozen victims of Tropical Storm Isabel said they still haven't received adequate insurance settlements to help them rebuild. They called for state Insurance Commissioner Alfred Bedner and the governor to press federal officials to speed their flood insurance claims. Some are still living in trailers supplied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Jump for charity

WI SHIOCTON — Matt McClone had an up-and-down day one weekend, but for a good reason.

McClone jumped out of an airplane 100 times in 12 hours to help raise an estimated \$14,000 for breast cancer survivors.

That works out to \$140 per jump for the Madison-based Breast Cancer Recovery Foundation — and one jump every seven minutes.

If those numbers make your head spin, picture the 26-year-old skydiver leaping from an altitude of 2,500, touching down, then spending less than a minute on the ground before getting back into another plane.

McClone decided to raise funds for the foundation after his girlfriend's mother was diagnosed with breast cancer.

For McClone, 99 of the jumps were uneventful. The troublesome one was No. 33. His main chute didn't open properly, though the reserve chute did.

Probation officers' case

FL DELTONA — Two probation officers who were fired after an ex-convict under their supervision was charged in six murders have appealed their punishment, saying it was too severe.

Richard Burrow and Paul Hayes were fired Aug. 9 for mishandling the case of Troy Victorino. The Department of Corrections said Victorino's brushes with the law while on probation should have put him behind bars before the killings at a home in Deltona, about 30 miles southwest of Daytona Beach.

Victorino, 27, is accused of organizing the killings to get back his belongings after one of the tenants removed his video game system and clothes from another home where he had been squatting.

Victorino and three 18-year-olds were indicted last week in the killing spree. The state is seeking the death penalty against Victorino, Michael Sales, Robert Cannon and Jerome Hunter.

Battling cupcake ban

MA DUXBURY — Betsy Hunter is cooking up a campaign to overturn a cupcake ban at her daughter's elementary school.

Hunter hopes to persuade school officials to rescind a no-cupcake birthday policy at Chandler Elementary School. She's gathered about 200 signatures. Chandler Principal Deborah Zetterberg said the change was part of an effort to promote healthier eating.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Costly garbage bins

HI HONOLULU — A miscalculation in how soon it would need thousands of new household garbage bins led to a storage problem that cost the city \$325,000.

The city took delivery of 28,000 bins between April 2003 and last November, but only needed to distribute 15,000 for recycling and regular trash.

Frank Doyle, the city's director of Environmental Services, said lack of available city space to store the remaining 13,000 bins forced the city to pay Matson Navigation Co. to let them stay in shipping containers at its Sand Island facility.

Some of the bins remained in containers for a year and a half, but city officials say all of the bins have now been moved to city yards.

In the future, the city will order fewer bins at a time, and new ones will go directly to homes upon arrival, Doyle said.

Site is sore sight

FL FORT WALTON BEACH — Fort Walton Beach High School football fans who click on the booster club's Web site are finding out that "score" has a different meaning these days.

Instead of stats and play-by-plays of the Vikings, Internet surfers are seeing pictures of



Lessson in fire

Onlookers watch a trailer burn during a demonstration in Las Cruces, N.M. The mock dorm room fire was set to show how even a small fire can engulf a dorm room.

naked women — posted after the Touchdown Club unknowingly let the domain name lapse.

The site was purchased by Beta Corp., based in Ukraine. Now, the site gives an eyeful and links to other sex-themed sites.

Touchdown Club president Johnnie Ford said the club hopes to buy the name back. He said he was unaware anything needed to be done to maintain control of the site.

Magnets attract thieves

IA COUNCIL BLUFFS — Patriotic magnets are attracting somebody's attention — much to the chagrin of Michelle Morrow and Kim Grosvenor, to name but two.

The women are among several people in the area who have had yellow and red, white and blue ribbon-shaped magnets stolen off their vehicles, according to the Council Bluffs police. Just a handful, though, have reported the thefts.

Morrow said her car magnet was stolen while she was at a hot air balloon fair. It read "Half of my heart is in Afghanistan," where her husband, Lance, has been stationed since early this year.

Morrow said she'll replace the magnet but won't leave it where thieves can get it.

"If they are making a political statement, then they are violating my rights to make a statement that I support our troops. But it obviously showed that I have a loved one serving over there."

Toddler dies in car

TX BROWNSVILLE — Authorities said miscommunication between two sisters may have led to the death of an 18-month-old girl who was left in a hot car for about two hours.

Jasmine Morin died of heat exhaustion after her aunt, 17-year-old Ana Lopez, left the child in the car with the windows closed, police said.

Police said Jasmine was in the car when Lopez dropped off the child's mother, Blanca Lopez, 24, at work.

"The mother indicates she told the aunt the child was in the back seat, but she [the aunt] didn't hear that," Lt. James Paschall told The Brownsville Herald.

Jasmine was found in the back seat of the car by relatives. Brownsville, in southern Texas near the Mexico border, reached a high of 93 that day.

Ana Lopez has been charged with felony abandonment of a child and is being held on a \$20,000 bond.

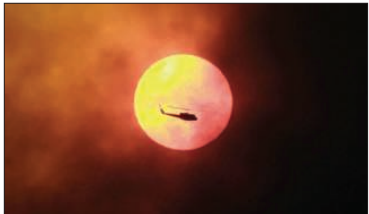
Teacher backgrounds

MA MALDEN — State Education Commissioner David Driscoll called for more extensive background checks for teachers and other school employees to help prevent sexual abuse. Driscoll also wants to hire investigators to examine complaints.

Currently, school system criminal background checks on prospective employees only cover offenses committed in Massachusetts.



Pigs' feat of daring The second of three diving pigs heads for the water during a practice run for Randall's High Diving Racers in Schaghticoke, N.Y. The diving and racing pigs, owned by Virgil "Boss Hog" Randall of Arkansas, were to make their first appearance at the Schaghticoke Fair.



Burning through the haze A helicopter flies past the setting sun while battling a fire on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation near Redness, Colo.



Deadly wreck A firefighter sprays the wreckage of a locomotive and an 18-wheeler that collided in a climax, Ga., and caught fire. Three Bainbridge College students and a faculty member were killed during a truck-driving class when the truck they were driving was hit by the train.



Skeleton in the castle A fake skeleton sits in a dungeon off the medieval tower staircase at Hammond Castle Museum in Gloucester, Mass. The museum is a castle mansion built by inventor John Hammond Jr., who was inspired by castles during his childhood in England.



Three points for female kicker Andress High School kicker Katie Bemis and holder Chris Marshall practice field goals at the school's stadium in El Paso, Texas. Bemis became the first female to score in an El Paso varsity football game when she kicked three extra points in the Eagles' 49-7 victory over Hanks High School.



Old-time sailing Crewmembers enjoy the view from the deck of a replica 1862-class sailing canal schooner Lois McClure during the ship's first time under sail on Lake Champlain off the Burlington, Vt., shoreline.



Fountain dance Maeva McKinley, 5, practices a ballet move she learned in her dance class while cooling off in the fountain at the Eugene Water and Electric Board offices along the Willamette River in Eugene, Ore.

Laundry room fires

WA EVERETT — Someone set fires in 22 laundry rooms in the same apartment complex by torching clothes, trash and other items, causing about \$22,000 in damage, police said.

No one was injured in the fires, said police Sgt. Boyd Bryant. Park Ridge apartments in south Everett has 42 buildings and about 600 residents.

Fire Marshal Warren Burns said crews responded to an initial call and quickly put out the flames, but as they prepared to leave, four more fires were reported.

Burns said the fires were contained to the laundry rooms, each of which is below one living unit and beside two others.

"We are very fortunate the fires stayed in the laundry rooms and stayed small," he said.

Manager Jenna Nolan said she had received no threats and saw no suspicious activity before the fires. Authorities were investigating.

93rd birthday adventure

IA CALDWELL — A woman celebrating her six children, 35 grandchildren, 75 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren jumped from an airplane to celebrate her 93rd birthday.

"Because it's a new adventure," explained Lurea Koltz, of Burlington, Vt.

After seeing a videotape of her great-granddaughter doing the same thing, Koltz set her mind to skydive in Caldwell. Her age wasn't a concern, she said.

Thirteen cars full of family and friends watched the jump.

Snake-whipped

NJ CEDARVILLE — In this case, police say a dead snake was more dangerous than a live one.

Michael File received several small lacerations on his back as a result of being whipped with a dead six-foot-long black snake, state police said. File, 26, wasn't wearing a shirt during the assault by Kenneth Davis, 42, authorities said.

Police said Davis let the snake, which was alive when the incident began, crawl into File's residence. File's father beat the snake to death with a piece of wood.

Police said Davis then became angry and pushed 65-year-old File. Michael File told Davis to leave the property, whereupon Davis picked up the snake, twisted it over his head and assaulted Michael File with it, police said.

File then grabbed a baseball bat and took aim at Davis' head, police said. Davis was treated for head lacerations.

Davis was charged with simple assault. Police Sgt. Sean Day said charges against File are likely.

Credit rating scam

CA ALBANY — The accused ringleader of a scam that stole the identities of dead people to bolster the credit ratings of car buyers has pleaded guilty to wire fraud and identity theft.

Investigators said Kwezeta Butler would troll newspaper obituaries and contact an Internet background search company to obtain the Social Security numbers, birth dates and credit histories of the deceased.

Butler then sold fake IDs with

the names of the deceased for \$500 to \$600 to people with bad credit who used the identities to buy cars, investigators said. In a few cases, the identities of people still alive were stolen.

About 80 people were arrested in January for the scheme, which took place from 2001 to 2002. They were indicted on forgery and identity fraud charges in May, and most of the cases still are pending.

Butler entered her guilty plea in U.S. District Court.

U.S. Attorney Maxwell Wood said more indictments may result from the investigation, but did not elaborate. Butler could face a maximum sentence of 15 years on the identity theft charge and 20 years on the charge of wire fraud. Wood did not immediately return a call about what sentence prosecutors would recommend.

Litter spies recruited

NJ FAIR LAWN — This Bergen County community of 30,000 is trying a novel approach to curb an annoying and longstanding problem.

It's recruiting "litter spotters." They'll volunteer to spot people tossing litter from vehicles and report the license number to the municipal office. The vehicle owner is then mailed a notice pointing out the offense and explaining a further offense could result in a fine.

Woman dies in biplane

WI PORT EDWARDS — A biplane giving rides for a fund-raiser in central Wisconsin crashed upside down in a river, killing a Michigan woman, authorities said.

The biplane's landing gear struck power lines before it crashed into about 3 feet of water in the Wisconsin river, said Wood County Sheriff's Sgt. Tim Ward.

A 38-year-old passenger visiting the Wisconsin Rapids area with her husband, children and mother was killed.

Pilot Mark Strub, 42, was unable to free the woman and ran a half-mile to a local paper mill to call for help, Sheriff Kurt Heuer said. The Federal Aviation Administration was investigating the accident.

Hawaiian Yankees Day

HI HONOLULU — New York Yankees Day in Hawaii? Attorney General Mark Bennett, a New York City native who has lived in the islands for 25 years, took advantage of his being acting governor to give his favorite baseball team some recognition.

Bennett is at the helm while Gov. Linda Lingle and Lt. Gov. James "Duke" Aiona attend the Republican National Convention in — where else? — New York City.

Bennett said he signed a proclamation declaring Sept. 1 in honor of the Bronx Bombers.

Bennett said he learned that Hawaii, which has no professional baseball team, does have an important historical connection to the game. Alexander Cartwright, who is credited with defining baseball's rules, moved to Hawaii in the mid-1890s, and became Honolulu's first fire chief.

A neighborhood baseball field in Makiki is named for Cartwright, who died here in 1892.

Stories and photos from wire services

Horoscope

The Virgo sun and Taurus moon resonate with common purpose. There's an easy connection between what we're doing and how we feel about it. When action is in line with powerful emotion, we can give a top performance. Apply this star power to your favorite project, and you'll work up a momentum you'll be able to keep all weekend.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(September 3). This is your year to roar — now, while everyone's listening. Whether it's through writing, lecturing, teaching or travel, the world is ready to hear what you have to say. It's time to take all that experience and turn it into gold. Overriding my lead to health problems, so pay attention to food and exercise. Lucky love signs are Libra and Aquarius.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

You're used to breaking new ground, but now's the time to let others do it for you. Good leaders delegate. Slow down just a bit so you can pick up speed later this week when you really need it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

You want to dig your heels in because you're right. But first, ask yourself, "Is being right worth losing ground?" Resist the temptation to say, "My way or the highway." Remember the highway can get mighty lonely.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Newspapers, legal documents and office memos — they all have different things to say, but on another level, they all say the same thing to you: "The opportunity that you've been looking for is here now." Trust yourself.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's time to cozy down at home and shake the world out, but today is not the day. Adventure awaits. You can go kicking and screaming or just go — the choice is always yours! A good kick in the status quo is just what the doctor ordered.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Work hard, but work smart — don't waste energy on worry and anxiety. Indulge yourself in the luxury of a big

yawn and a nice stretch. You deserve it. Avoid conflict; things won't go your way if you decide to take someone on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's good to be boss, even if you're only the boss of you. Exercise your

personal authority, and make positive changes in your environment. Organize your closets, and clear out your clutter. Make space for the unexpected.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Listen. Do you hear music? If you don't, run — don't walk — to your nearest CD, mp3 player or radio, and pump up the volume on your favorite tunes. Music has the power to move you to accomplish the difficult or even impossible.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's not your imagination. No one really understands you, but who cares? They all adore you. Rock stars, supermodels and Scorpios all share the same problem — under that tough-as-nails exterior beats the heart of a sensualist.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

Favorable conditions don't last forever, but you know how to track them down when you need them most. Your normally gregarious disposition will be challenged, but you can find the opportunity in the seeming obstacle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Personal wealth is on your mind, and you have the tools to increase yours today. Real-estate opportunities are revealed, but there may be hidden problems. Check all plumbing before you commit.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Pay attention to your dreams. Daydreams, night dreams and even nightmares all have special messages, and you're the one with the key to their meaning. Just because something frightens you doesn't mean it will harm you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

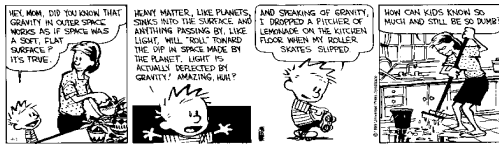
Look for hidden truth. Your intuition is your best friend. You are drawn to beauty. Beautiful people, artwork and architecture can all have a positive influence. Seek solace in a special place, such as a church, temple or garden.

Creators Syndicate

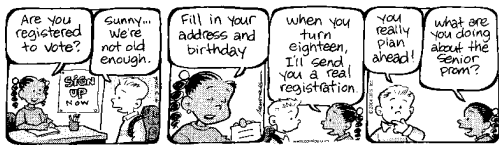
Joyce Jillson



Cavin and Hobbes



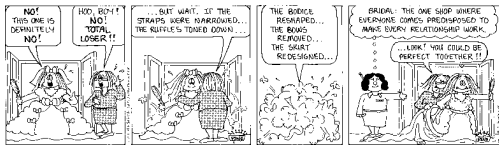
Jump Start



Zits



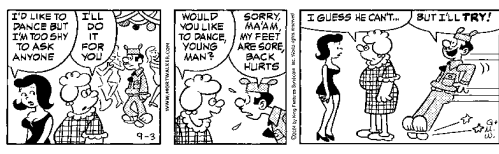
Kathy



Hi and Lois



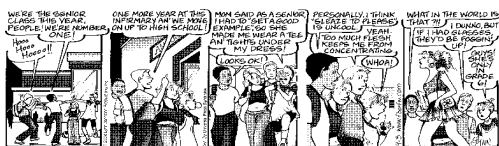
Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



Blondie



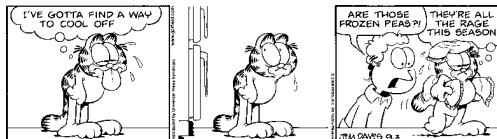
Dilbert



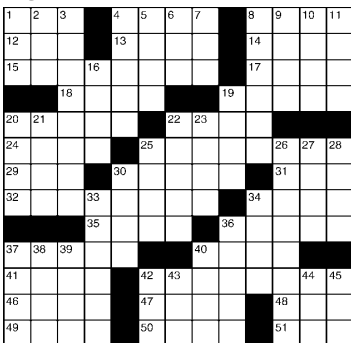
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Snapshot
- 4 Settle down heavily
- 8 Long-running musical
- 12 Oklahoma city
- 13 Mississippi River feeder
- 14 Malaria symptom
- 15 Saturday morning fare
- 17 Poison
- 18 Lacking slack
- 19 Seraglio
- 20 Falls (over)
- 22 Existed
- 24 Quest for adventure
- 25 GIs' home
- 29 Prior to
- 30 Without a break
- 31 Literary collection
- 32 Snarl up
- 34 Boast
- 35 Defeat
- 36 Annie of "Any Day Now"
- 37 Topiarist's canvas
- 40 Mine bruin
- 41 Weaver's need
- 42 Ruester writer
- 46 In due course
- 47 Moises of baseball
- 48 Sticky stuff
- 49 Drew Carey's nemesis
- 50 Lowers the lights
- 51 44-Dow ingredient

Down

- 1 Lobbyist org.
- 4 Sanctimonious
- 5 Booty
- 6 Possessive
- 7 de structure
- 8 Possible
- 9 Culture medium
- 10 Melody
- 11 Appear
- 12 Chatter
- 13 Drove
- 20 "Fish Magic" artist
- 21 Deserve
- 22 Jugger's equipment
- 23 Pennsylvania port
- 25 Marshes
- 26 Ancient African city
- 27 Gordius' challenge
- 28 Proverbs
- 30 Nose-in-the-air sort
- 33 Grads
- 34 Aloof
- 36 Acronym for George W.
- 37 Wrestling maneuver
- 38 Hagar the Horrible's daughter
- 39 Leeway
- 40 Senior year highlight
- 42 Scoundrel
- 43 — Baba Yuldet
- 44 refreshment
- 45 Follow relentlessly

Answer to Previous Puzzle



9-3

CRYPTOQUIP

H P F X X S P Y K T C K
 O S F L H P T R Y O K P W S L P R C U U
 B T H U E L Y O B S F U E D Y
 U C D Y U Y E "W S S E W S L K S K."
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT THE TENNIS SUPPLY STORE, ONE WOULD SUPPOSE THEY'RE CONCERNED WITH NET SALES.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals T

Cross has woman at crossroads

Dear Abby: I am in a terrible bind. Some years ago, I made a Halloween costume for a former roommate, "Connie." The costume was a nun's habit and it came out great. When I showed her the costume, I had a cross with it that had belonged to an aunt of my mother's who had been a nun in a religious order. Connie begged to borrow the cross, and I lent it to her against my better judgment. She then moved to California and I lost touch with her.

Now my mother is asking for the cross, and I'm afraid to tell her that I made a family heirloom out of a Halloween costume.

Connie refuses to return it to me, saying that she returned it "years ago." I have sent her several e-mails. Now she has changed her e-mail address to avoid me. You are my last hope. I know Connie is a devoted reader of your column and so is her mother—who also wore the costume. I'm praying

they will see themselves and save me from the wrath of my mother.

—Desperate Daughter, Staten Island

Dear Desperate: If it was *should have been returned to you the day after Halloween*, if it was *inconvenient for Connie to bring it to you*, you should have made it your business to go and collect it. It's a shame that your former friend is lying about having returned the cross.

What she's probably afraid to admit is that she or her mother lost it, and now she's hiding. My advice to you is to level with your mother and start praying that she's forgiving. It's time to face the music.

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: Before I was a stay-at-home mom to my daughter, I had a circle of friends with whom I had a lot in common. None of us had children, and we were all focused on advancing our careers.

I have since moved to a different town and have thrown myself into my daughter's activities and the new community. I stay in touch with my old friends via e-mail, and we see each other two or three times a year, but I feel that we have drifted apart.

I would rather spend my free time with my husband and daughter. Should I feel guilty for wanting to phase out these friendships?

—Devoted Mom in Livermore, Calif.

Dear Devoted Mom: For friendships to stay healthy and vital, there must be a commonality of interests. When you were a career woman, you had ties that bound you to these women. Now that your life has changed, it's not surprising that the bonds of camaraderie have loosened.

However, you might want to resume your career at some point. So, my advice to you is *don't burn your bridges—you may regret it later.*

Letters for this column—with your name and phone number—should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WHYOYS



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KROPE



PRIMEE



www.jumble.com

KITSCY



Answer:



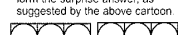
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron

I need your donations. I'll fight for better schools, better roads...



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.



(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GULCH AGONY POLISH FETISH
Answer: What the instructor insisted on when the singer wanted to be a pilot — A "SOLO" FLIGHT

Worried friend could be pedophile

Dear Annie: I have a male friend, 35 years old, who recently took a trip with family. "Dean" told me that all of the kids—three nieces, ages 5, 12 and 15, and a nephew, age 6, wanted to sleep with him in a king-sized bed. To remedy the situation, the kids rotated nights, each taking a turn sleeping with him.

I told Dean I considered it inappropriate for a 35-year-old man to sleep in the same bed as his teenage nieces. Also, Dean has made comments, jokingly (or so I thought), about young girls being "hot."

He once said this about his cousin's 14-year-old daughter. He also told me all three of his nieces wanted to marry him when they were little girls, and the youngest draws pictures of them getting married.

Is this normal? I'm not accusing Dean of anything, but I'm wondering if he is some kind of pedophile. He seems to be a very nice man and has made romantic

Annie's Mailbox



advances toward me. However, I don't see how I can continue our friendship when I have such strong reservations about his character. I would feel terrible if something happened to a child and I ignored the warning signs.

—Worried in Atlanta

Dear Atlanta: Dean should NOT be sharing a bed with his 12-year-old and 15-year-old nieces, although knowing his nieces and nephew were eager to sleep with him tends to indicate nothing disturbing is going on (yet). The fact that the 5-year-old draws pictures of him marrying her is no big deal. It is quite common for young girls to have crushes on their uncles or other relatives. It does bother us, however, that Dean thinks 14-year-old girls are "hot," although to be fair, some teenage girls dress to provoke such reactions.

Talk to Dean and explain your concerns about him sleeping

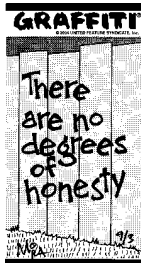
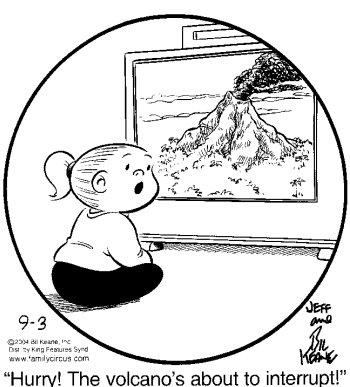
with his teenage nieces. He sounds more like an oblivious uncle than a pedophile, but I don't want to let him know how his behavior appears to others and see what he says.

Dear Annie: You agreed with "Grand Ledge, Mich.," who said to use "fewer" for plural words and "less" for singular. Actually, fewer is used for things that can be counted (discrete variables) such as cows, and less is used for things that are measured (continuous variables) such love, news or rain.

Dear Professor: We thought "plural" and "singular" made it simpler, but now we know better. Our thanks to all the English majors, editors and language mavens who told us otherwise. We bow to your superior intellect.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

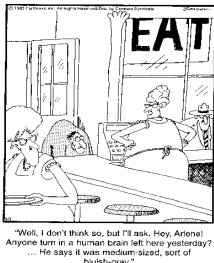
Family Circus



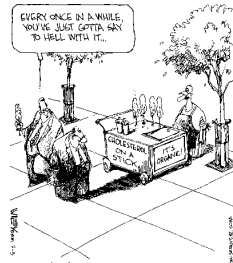
Dennis the Menace



The Far Side



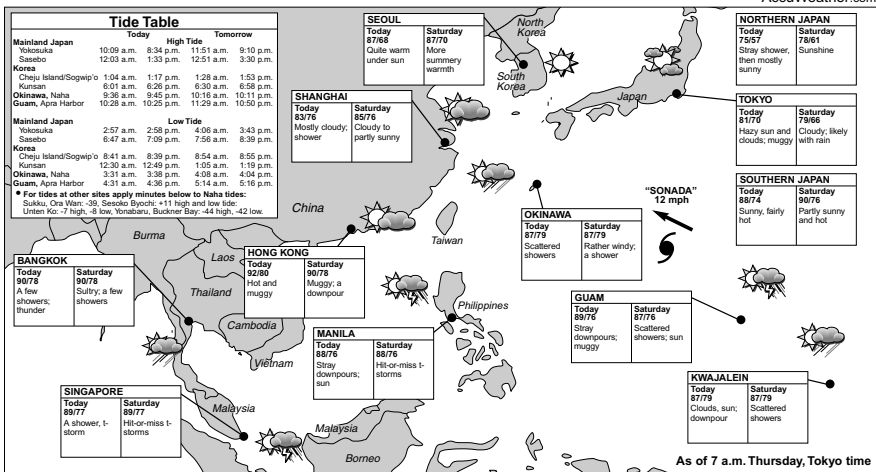
Non Sequitur



The Pacific Forecast

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AccuWeather.com



Extended Forecasts

TOKYO
Sunday: Rain, high 77, low 71.
Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 85, low 73.

KADENA
Sunday: Thunderstorms, high 85, low 77.
Monday: Thunderstorms, high 87, low 79.

SEUL
Sunday: Partly sunny, high 87, low 72.
Monday: Mostly cloudy, high 83, low 66.

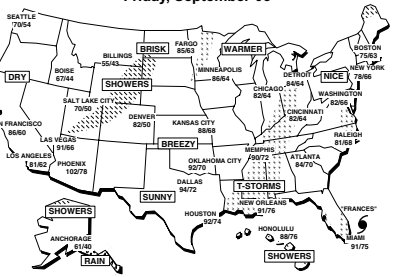
MANILA
Sunday: Thunderstorms, high 86, low 76.
Monday: Thunderstorms, high 88, low 76.

HAGATNA
Sunday: Showers, high 89, low 78.
Monday: Showers, high 87, low 76.

Wednesday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	84/60	Los Angeles	90/64
Amarillo	84/60	Little Rock	89/64
Anchorage	62/52	Louisville	85/65
Asheville	78/63	Miami	92/80
Baltimore	84/62	Milwaukee	78/62
Birmingham	86/69	Nashville	86/65
Bismarck	92/67	New York	83/64
Boise	92/52	Omaha	91/65
Boston	81/61	Orlando	93/76
Brownsville	89/74	Philadelphia	83/63
Buffalo	74/55	Phoenix	110/84
Burlington	90/78	Pittsburgh	79/56
Charleston, SC	88/73	Portland, OR	71/55
Charlotte	86/66	Portland, ME	79/51
Chicago	78/59	Salt Lake City	97/61
Columbus, OH	83/61	Salt Lake City	88/66
Dallas	87/54	San Antonio	92/68
El Paso	84/62	San Diego	78/69
Hartford	82/54	San Juan	93/78
Helena	91/56	Tampa	93/75
Indianapolis	84/62	Tulsa	92/66
Jacksonville	91/73	Washington	85/66
Kansas City	88/64	Wichita	91/65

Friday, September 03



U.S. Extended Forecast

Showers, thunderstorms and windy conditions will occur on the eastern coast of Florida Friday as Hurricane Frances approaches the eastern coast of Florida. Meanwhile, an area of high pressure will continue to dominate the Northeast, providing dry weather. A few thunderstorms will ignite during the afternoon hours in the Southeast. Warm air from the south will be drawn into the Midwest ahead of an approaching storm system. The system will spark showers and a few thunderstorms across the Plains. Cooler air will filter in behind the system for chilly conditions across the Northwest. The strong Hurricane Frances will impact eastern Florida Saturday and Sunday.

Friday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	90/78	Jeju	85/71
Beijing	80/68	Kadena AB	87/79
Camp Casey	85/63	Kunsan AB	85/67
Changchun	45/31	Kwajalein	87/79
Diego Garcia	83/75	Manila	86/76
Hagatna	89/75	Misawa AB	81/60
Hanoi	85/78	Osan	87/65
Hong Kong	92/80	Perth	69/52
Honolulu	88/76	Pusan	81/71

Friday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	81/75	Budapest	80/67	Buenos Aires	72/55
Athens	86/67	Cairo	97/68	Kuwait	111/80
Auckland	53/39	Cancun	87/75	London	77/57
Baghdad	115/81	Cape Town	76/55	Madrid	73/54
Barbados	86/71	Geneva	77/63	Mexico City	73/57
Barcelona	65/43	Istanbul	78/60	Montreal	77/63
Berlin	85/66	Jerusalem	91/68	Mogadishu	89/74
Bermuda	85/74	Johannesburg	66/45	Moscow	71/52
Brussels	78/61				



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Can Panthers find success?

New coach Hildreth aiming for return to playoffs

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

After the best season in the team's seven-year history, what's next for the Guam High Panthers?

On the surface, it might appear to be a rebuilding year. Tom Hildreth, the team's fifth coach, inherits a squad that lost a handful of key components including Theo Tom, the first Guam High player ever named first-team All-Island.

Given his football background — the 57-year-old Hildreth coached for 28 years in Iowa before coming to Guam High two years ago — he doesn't buy the notion that the team might regress. He would rather think of the team as reloading, not rebuilding.

"The kids have good attitudes. We have some size and athletic ability," he said. "We just have to take those diamonds and polish them up."

To get off on the right foot in trying to better that third-place finish, the Panthers must get through Saturday's opener against Father Duennas Memorial, the team that ousted Guam High 23-14 in the island

Guam football preview

playoffs last season. The Friars finished second in the league.

"Wouldn't you know, our first game is against Father Duennas, one of the premier teams in the league," Hildreth said.

That game begins the Panthers' march through a double round-robin regular-season schedule, the first time since 2001 that teams play one another again. All league teams qualify for the playoffs, which culminate with the island championship Bamboo Bowl on Nov. 6.

Hildreth acknowledges the problem the Panthers face every season: trying to build a team with transient players, while coaching of indigenous islanders enjoy coaching and player continuity.

"That's difficult to deal with," Hildreth said. "When you're dealing with sophomores, juniors, seniors who have never played before, it's like starting over with a junior-high program."

Other teams' strength-ahead blocking, they don't seem to understand the concept

of pulling, crossblocking, seal blocking, things that are second nature where we came from," Hildreth said.

On the plus side, however, the Panthers have potential.

Veteran Matt Sablan and newcomer Alex Weaver, both in excess of 200 pounds, anchor a line in front of new quarterback Doug Bloom and a stable of solid running backs. Bookending the line on a defense that "loves to hit" are ends Darren Lawson and Chris Hoyle.

"Our strength is going to be the line," Hildreth said. "We have some new and returning kids who we feel can match up with anybody. Not only are they big, but they're athletic. That's what's going to carry us. If we can stay healthy, play together and understand the offense, we'll be OK."

If so, it would continue the program's metamorphosis from bottom-feeder — it earned last season 9-26 overall and had been outscored 1,294-359 — into title contender.

"Enthusiasm is starting to build," Hildreth said. "I can think to have a program that's turning out to be good."

E-mail Dave Ornaauer at: ornaauer@stripes.gm.net

Guam High Panthers capsule/schedule

Ninety Mile, Guam
2003 record: 4-3-1, 571, 109 points for, 125 points against. Third place in 2003. Intercollegiate Athletic Association of Guam regular season, playoffs.
Head coach: Tom Hildreth, 57, first season. Hoyle, M., TE/DE.
Base offense: Wing T, pro set, slot.
Base defense: 3-4, 4-3, 4-2, 4-1, 3-3, 3-2, 3-1, 3-0, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7, 3-8, 3-9, 3-10, 3-11, 3-12, 3-13, 3-14, 3-15, 3-16, 3-17, 3-18, 3-19, 3-20, 3-21, 3-22, 3-23, 3-24, 3-25, 3-26, 3-27, 3-28, 3-29, 3-30, 3-31, 3-32, 3-33, 3-34, 3-35, 3-36, 3-37, 3-38, 3-39, 3-40, 3-41, 3-42, 3-43, 3-44, 3-45, 3-46, 3-47, 3-48, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-54, 3-55, 3-56, 3-57, 3-58, 3-59, 3-60, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-65, 3-66, 3-67, 3-68, 3-69, 3-70, 3-71, 3-72, 3-73, 3-74, 3-75, 3-76, 3-77, 3-78, 3-79, 3-80, 3-81, 3-82, 3-83, 3-84, 3-85, 3-86, 3-87, 3-88, 3-89, 3-90, 3-91, 3-92, 3-93, 3-94, 3-95, 3-96, 3-97, 3-98, 3-99, 3-100, 3-101, 3-102, 3-103, 3-104, 3-105, 3-106, 3-107, 3-108, 3-109, 3-110, 3-111, 3-112, 3-113, 3-114, 3-115, 3-116, 3-117, 3-118, 3-119, 3-120, 3-121, 3-122, 3-123, 3-124, 3-125, 3-126, 3-127, 3-128, 3-129, 3-130, 3-131, 3-132, 3-133, 3-134, 3-135, 3-136, 3-137, 3-138, 3-139, 3-140, 3-141, 3-142, 3-143, 3-144, 3-145, 3-146, 3-147, 3-148, 3-149, 3-150, 3-151, 3-152, 3-153, 3-154, 3-155, 3-156, 3-157, 3-158, 3-159, 3-160, 3-161, 3-162, 3-163, 3-164, 3-165, 3-166, 3-167, 3-168, 3-169, 3-170, 3-171, 3-172, 3-173, 3-174, 3-175, 3-176, 3-177, 3-178, 3-179, 3-180, 3-181, 3-182, 3-183, 3-184, 3-185, 3-186, 3-187, 3-188, 3-189, 3-190, 3-191, 3-192, 3-193, 3-194, 3-195, 3-196, 3-197, 3-198, 3-199, 3-200, 3-201, 3-202, 3-203, 3-204, 3-205, 3-206, 3-207, 3-208, 3-209, 3-210, 3-211, 3-212, 3-213, 3-214, 3-215, 3-216, 3-217, 3-218, 3-219, 3-220, 3-221, 3-222, 3-223, 3-224, 3-225, 3-226, 3-227, 3-228, 3-229, 3-230, 3-231, 3-232, 3-233, 3-234, 3-235, 3-236, 3-237, 3-238, 3-239, 3-240, 3-241, 3-242, 3-243, 3-244, 3-245, 3-246, 3-247, 3-248, 3-249, 3-250, 3-251, 3-252, 3-253, 3-254, 3-255, 3-256, 3-257, 3-258, 3-259, 3-260, 3-261, 3-262, 3-263, 3-264, 3-265, 3-266, 3-267, 3-268, 3-269, 3-270, 3-271, 3-272, 3-273, 3-274, 3-275, 3-276, 3-277, 3-278, 3-279, 3-280, 3-281, 3-282, 3-283, 3-284, 3-285, 3-286, 3-287, 3-288, 3-289, 3-290, 3-291, 3-292, 3-293, 3-294, 3-295, 3-296, 3-297, 3-298, 3-299, 3-300, 3-301, 3-302, 3-303, 3-304, 3-305, 3-306, 3-307, 3-308, 3-309, 3-310, 3-311, 3-312, 3-313, 3-314, 3-315, 3-316, 3-317, 3-318, 3-319, 3-320, 3-321, 3-322, 3-323, 3-324, 3-325, 3-326, 3-327, 3-328, 3-329, 3-330, 3-331, 3-332, 3-333, 3-334, 3-335, 3-336, 3-337, 3-338, 3-339, 3-340, 3-341, 3-342, 3-343, 3-344, 3-345, 3-346, 3-347, 3-348, 3-349, 3-350, 3-351, 3-352, 3-353, 3-354, 3-355, 3-356, 3-357, 3-358, 3-359, 3-360, 3-361, 3-362, 3-363, 3-364, 3-365, 3-366, 3-367, 3-368, 3-369, 3-370, 3-371, 3-372, 3-373, 3-374, 3-375, 3-376, 3-377, 3-378, 3-379, 3-380, 3-381, 3-382, 3-383, 3-384, 3-385, 3-386, 3-387, 3-388, 3-389, 3-390, 3-391, 3-392, 3-393, 3-394, 3-395, 3-396, 3-397, 3-398, 3-399, 3-400, 3-401, 3-402, 3-403, 3-404, 3-405, 3-406, 3-407, 3-408, 3-409, 3-410, 3-411, 3-412, 3-413, 3-414, 3-415, 3-416, 3-417, 3-418, 3-419, 3-420, 3-421, 3-422, 3-423, 3-424, 3-425, 3-426, 3-427, 3-428, 3-429, 3-430, 3-431, 3-432, 3-433, 3-434, 3-435, 3-436, 3-437, 3-438, 3-439, 3-440, 3-441, 3-442, 3-443, 3-444, 3-445, 3-446, 3-447, 3-448, 3-449, 3-450, 3-451, 3-452, 3-453, 3-454, 3-455, 3-456, 3-457, 3-458, 3-459, 3-460, 3-461, 3-462, 3-463, 3-464, 3-465, 3-466, 3-467, 3-468, 3-469, 3-470, 3-471, 3-472, 3-473, 3-474, 3-475, 3-476, 3-477, 3-478, 3-479, 3-480, 3-481, 3-482, 3-483, 3-484, 3-485, 3-486, 3-487, 3-488, 3-489, 3-490, 3-491, 3-492, 3-493, 3-494, 3-495, 3-496, 3-497, 3-498, 3-499, 3-500, 3-501, 3-502, 3-503, 3-504, 3-505, 3-506, 3-507, 3-508, 3-509, 3-510, 3-511, 3-512, 3-513, 3-514, 3-515, 3-516, 3-517, 3-518, 3-519, 3-520, 3-521, 3-522, 3-523, 3-524, 3-525, 3-526, 3-527, 3-528, 3-529, 3-530, 3-531, 3-532, 3-533, 3-534, 3-535, 3-536, 3-537, 3-538, 3-539, 3-540, 3-541, 3-542, 3-543, 3-544, 3-545, 3-546, 3-547, 3-548, 3-549, 3-550, 3-551, 3-552, 3-553, 3-554, 3-555, 3-556, 3-557, 3-558, 3-559, 3-560, 3-561, 3-562, 3-563, 3-564, 3-565, 3-566, 3-567, 3-568, 3-569, 3-570, 3-571, 3-572, 3-573, 3-574, 3-575, 3-576, 3-577, 3-578, 3-579, 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3-723, 3-724, 3-725, 3-726, 3-727, 3-728, 3-729, 3-730, 3-731, 3-732, 3-733, 3-734, 3-735, 3-736, 3-737, 3-738, 3-739, 3-740, 3-741, 3-742, 3-743, 3-744, 3-745, 3-746, 3-747, 3-748, 3-749, 3-750, 3-751, 3-752, 3-753, 3-754, 3-755, 3-756, 3-757, 3-758, 3-759, 3-760, 3-761, 3-762, 3-763, 3-764, 3-765, 3-766, 3-767, 3-768, 3-769, 3-770, 3-771, 3-772, 3-773, 3-774, 3-775, 3-776, 3-777, 3-778, 3-779, 3-780, 3-781, 3-782, 3-783, 3-784, 3-785, 3-786, 3-787, 3-788, 3-789, 3-790, 3-791, 3-792, 3-793, 3-794, 3-795, 3-796, 3-797, 3-798, 3-799, 3-800, 3-801, 3-802, 3-803, 3-804, 3-805, 3-806, 3-807, 3-808, 3-809, 3-810, 3-811, 3-812, 3-813, 3-814, 3-815, 3-816, 3-817, 3-818, 3-819, 3-820, 3-821, 3-822, 3-823, 3-824, 3-825, 3-826, 3-827, 3-828, 3-829, 3-830, 3-831, 3-832, 3-833, 3-834, 3-835, 3-836, 3-837, 3-838, 3-839, 3-840, 3-841, 3-842, 3-843, 3-844, 3-845, 3-846, 3-847, 3-848, 3-849, 3-850, 3-851, 3-852, 3-853, 3-854, 3-855, 3-856, 3-857, 3-858, 3-859, 3-860, 3-861, 3-862, 3-863, 3-864, 3-865, 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3-1007, 3-1008, 3-1009, 3-1010, 3-1011, 3-1012, 3-1013, 3-1014, 3-1015, 3-1016, 3-1017, 3-1018, 3-1019, 3-1020, 3-1021, 3-1022, 3-1023, 3-1024, 3-1025, 3-1026, 3-1027, 3-1028, 3-1029, 3-1030, 3-1031, 3-1032, 3-1033, 3-1034, 3-1035, 3-1036, 3-1037, 3-1038, 3-1039, 3-1040, 3-1041, 3-1042, 3-1043, 3-1044, 3-1045, 3-1046, 3-1047, 3-1048, 3-1049, 3-1050, 3-1051, 3-1052, 3-1053, 3-1054, 3-1055, 3-1056, 3-1057, 3-1058, 3-1059, 3-1060, 3-1061, 3-1062, 3-1063, 3-1064, 3-1065, 3-1066, 3-1067, 3-1068, 3-1069, 3-1070, 3-1071, 3-1072, 3-1073, 3-1074, 3-1075, 3-1076, 3-1077, 3-1078, 3-1079, 3-1080, 3-1081, 3-1082, 3-1083, 3-1084, 3-1085, 3-1086, 3-1087, 3-1088, 3-1089, 3-1090, 3-1091, 3-1092, 3-1093, 3-1094, 3-1095, 3-1096, 3-1097, 3-1098, 3-1099, 3-1100, 3-1101, 3-1102, 3-1103, 3-1104, 3-1105, 3-1106, 3-1107, 3-1108, 3-1109, 3-1110, 3-1111, 3-1112, 3-1113, 3-1114, 3-1115, 3-1116, 3-1117, 3-1118, 3-1119, 3-1120, 3-1121, 3-1122, 3-1123, 3-1124, 3-1125, 3-1126, 3-1127, 3-1128, 3-1129, 3-1130, 3-1131, 3-1132, 3-1133, 3-1134, 3-1135, 3-1136, 3-1137, 3-1138, 3-1139, 3-1140, 3-1141, 3-1142, 3-1143, 3-1144, 3-1145, 3-1146, 3-1147, 3-1148, 3-1149, 3-1150, 3-1151, 3-1152, 3-1153, 3-1154, 3-1155, 3-1156, 3-1157, 3-1158, 3-1159, 3-1160, 3-1161, 3-1162, 3-1163, 3-1164, 3-1165, 3-1166, 3-1167, 3-1168, 3-1169, 3-1170, 3-1171, 3-1172, 3-1173, 3-1174, 3-1175, 3-1176, 3-1177, 3-1178, 3-1179, 3-1180, 3-1181, 3-1182, 3-1183, 3-1184, 3-1185, 3-1186, 3-1187, 3-1188, 3-1189, 3-1190, 3-1191, 3-1192, 3-1193, 3-1194, 3-1195, 3-1196, 3-1197, 3-1198, 3-1199, 3-1200, 3-1201, 3-1202, 3-1203, 3-1204, 3-1205, 3-1206, 3-1207, 3-1208, 3-1209, 3-1210, 3-1211, 3-1212, 3-1213, 3-1214, 3-1215, 3-1216, 3-1217, 3-1218, 3-1219, 3-1220, 3-1221, 3-1222, 3-1223, 3-1224, 3-1225, 3-1226, 3-1227, 3-1228, 3-1229, 3-1230, 3-1231, 3-1232, 3-1233, 3-1234, 3-1235, 3-1236, 3-1237, 3-1238, 3-1239, 3-1240, 3-1241, 3-1242, 3-1243, 3-1244, 3-1245, 3-1246, 3-1247, 3-1248, 3-1249, 3-1250, 3-1251, 3-1252, 3-1253, 3-1254, 3-1255, 3-1256, 3-1257, 3-1258, 3-1259, 3-1260, 3-1261, 3-1262, 3-1263, 3-1264, 3-1265, 3-1266, 3-1267, 3-1268, 3-1269, 3-1270, 3-1271, 3-1272, 3-1273, 3-1274, 3-1275, 3-1276, 3-1277, 3-1278, 3-1279, 3-1280, 3-1281, 3-1282, 3-1283, 3-1284, 3-1285, 3-1286, 3-1287, 3-1288, 3-1289, 3-1290, 3-1291, 3-1292, 3-1293, 3-1294, 3-1295, 3-1296, 3-1297, 3-1298, 3-1299, 3-1300, 3-1301, 3-1302, 3-1303, 3-1304, 3-1305, 3-1306, 3-1307, 3-1308, 3-1309, 3-1310, 3-1311, 3-1312, 3-1313, 3-1314, 3-1315, 3-1316, 3-1317, 3-1318, 3-1319, 3-1320, 3-1321, 3-1322, 3-1323, 3-1324, 3-1325, 3-1326, 3-1327, 3-1328, 3-1329, 3-1330, 3-1331, 3-1332, 3-1333, 3-1334, 3-1335, 3-1336, 3-1337, 3-1338, 3-1339, 3-1340, 3-1341, 3-1342, 3-1343, 3-1344, 3-1345, 3-1346, 3-1347, 3-1348, 3-1349, 3-1350, 3-1351, 3-1352, 3-1353, 3-1354, 3-1355, 3-1356, 3-1357, 3-1358, 3-1359, 3-1360, 3-1361, 3-1362, 3-1363, 3-1364, 3-1365, 3-1366, 3-1367, 3-1368, 3-1369, 3-1370, 3-1371, 3-1372, 3-1373, 3-1374, 3-1375, 3-1376, 3-1377, 3-1378, 3-1379, 3-1380, 3-1381, 3-1382, 3-1383, 3-1384, 3-1385, 3-1386, 3-1387, 3-1388, 3-1389, 3-1390, 3-1391, 3-1392, 3-1393, 3-1394, 3-1395, 3-1396, 3-1397, 3-1398, 3-1399, 3-1400, 3-1401, 3-1402, 3-1403, 3-1404, 3-1405, 3-1406, 3-1407, 3-1408, 3-1409, 3-1410, 3-1411, 3-1412, 3-1413, 3-1414, 3-1415, 3-1416, 3-1417, 3-1418, 3-1419, 3-1420, 3-1421, 3-1422, 3-1423, 3-1424, 3-1425, 3-1426, 3-1427, 3-1428, 3-1429, 3-1430, 3-1431, 3-1432, 3-1433, 3-1434, 3-1435, 3-1436, 3-1437, 3-1438, 3-1439, 3-1440, 3-1441, 3-1442, 3-1443, 3-1444, 3-1445, 3-1446, 3-1447, 3-1448, 3-1449, 3-1450, 3-1451, 3-1452, 3-1453, 3-1454, 3-1455, 3-1456, 3-1457, 3-1458, 3-145

Canada stands up to U.S.

Hosts edge Americans in physical World Cup opener

The Associated Press

MONTREAL — The rivalry between the United States and Canada was reignited Tuesday night in the World Cup of Hockey.

Martin St. Louis had a goal and an assist to lead Canada to a 2-1 victory over the United States in the opening game of the tournament for both teams.

"I think the crowd pumped everybody up," Canada coach Pat Quinn said of the roaring, chanting, capacity crowd of 21,273, which included Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin.

The game was so contentious that Canada's 38-year-old captain Mario Lemieux went after Steve Konowalchuk after the American toppled goalie Martin Brodeur.

U.S. goaltender Robert Esche kept his team close by making 18 saves, many of them spectacular, during a first period in which the United States was outshot 19-6.

St. Louis, the NHL scoring champion and MVP last season, scored the only goal of the opening period during a power play and helped set up Joe Sakic's goal early in the second.

But the momentum turned toward the Americans when Bill Guerin scored midway through the second period.

It was like it was two games — we controlled the play in the first half and they took over in the second," Sakic said. "When we went up 2-0, we changed our game a bit. We tried to make for ourselves plays. Then they got a goal and got a lot of life from that. We came back in the third, but we have to do a better job of that — to keep pressing when we have the momentum."



Robert Esche kept the Americans in the game on Tuesday with 18 saves in the opening period.

It took little time for the teams to show signs of the rivalry that has peaked since Canada beat the United States in the gold-medal game of the 2002 Olympics. The Americans won the inaugural World Cup in 1996 by beating Canada in Montreal in the third game of a three-game final series.

"It's an emotional tournament," Guerin said. "It's Canada-U.S., it's for lots of pride. It always tends to be physical."

Both teams lost players to injuries. Defenseman Ed Jovanovskiy was knocked out of Canada's lineup, and the United States was without forward Mike Modano for most of the game. As is typical with NHL playoff games, neither team would give specifics. Both were said to have lower body injuries and were to be re-evaluated on Wednesday.

Canada will play its second

game of the round-robin portion of the eight-team tournament Wednesday against Slovakia in Montreal.

The United States will play Russia on Thursday in St. Paul, Minn. "You have to give Canada credit, they came out hungrier than we were and were a lot more intense," U.S. coach Ron Wilson said. "They got physically involved. They pushed us and we didn't push back. Fortunately, Robert Esche was on top of things. In the second period, we started to turn things around."

Canada was leading 2-1 at 16:03 of the second period when Konowalchuk came in hard and bumped Brodeur in the crease.

Lemieux, not known for fighting, charged in and tussled with Konowalchuk until teammate Jarome Iginla took over. Defenseman Scott Niedermayer ended up fighting American Jeff Halpern.

"They tried to run Brodeur four or five times," Quinn said. "Mario had to try to do something to restore common sense out there."

"Every time I play in a big game it's like that," Brodeur said. "I control rebounds, so guys go in there. They went in hard a few times, but that's part of the game."

Early in the second period Canada led 2-0 and was outshooting the Americans 24-6. The United States improved its attack and Canada finished with a 32-24 advantage in shots on goal.

For most of the first period, it looked like Esche would emulate the 1996 performance of Mike Richter, who earned MVP honors in the United States' World Cup victory. But St. Louis gave Canada a 1-0 lead with a power-play goal at 16:01.



U.S. forward Steve Konowalchuk, top, knocks over Canadian goalie Martin Brodeur during Tuesday's World Cup game in Montreal. The Americans crated the net regularly during their 2-1 loss, but Brodeur made 23 saves. Team USA plays Russia on Thursday in St. Paul, Minn.

AP

Canada was on another power play when Sakic's point shot hit Chris Drury's leg and bounced past the screened Esche 3:05 into the second.

Guerin got the United States within 2-1 at 10:40 of the second period when he had time to gain control of a pass from Scott Gomez and whip a quick high shot past Brodeur's glove side.

On Wednesday, Peter Forsberg, Mattias Ohlund and Henrik

Zetterberg scored power-play goals to lead host Sweden to a 4-3 victory over the Czech Republic in Stockholm.

Canada 2, United States 1	
United States	0 1 1=2
Canada	1 0 1=2
First Period—1. Canada, St. Louis (Lemieux, Niedermayer), 16:01 (up).	
Second Period—2. Canada, Sakic (Iginla, Redden, St. Louis), 3:05 (go), 3. United States, Guerin (Gomez), 10:40.	
Shots on goal—United States 6, 12-24.	
Canada 19-32.	
Power-play Opportunities—United States 0 of 3, Canada 2 of 2.	
Goalsies—United States, Esche, Canada, Brodeur. A-27,73.	

NHL labor talks resume

The Associated Press

MONTREAL — The NHL owners and players association returned to the bargaining table Tuesday, one week after trading barbs about who was to blame for the lack of progress in negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement.

The sides met for 6½ hours before a World Cup game and are scheduled to conclude their

two-day session Wednesday.

The league and union declined comment until the conclusion of the meeting, just as they did after Day 1 of a two-day session last week in Ottawa.

It was after that round of talks that the NHL claimed that the players association was stalling and wanted to force the owners to impose a lockout when the current collective bargaining agreement expires on Sept. 15.

Air Force Academy LB Spence found innocent of steroid charge

The Associated Press

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Air Force linebacker Overton Spence was found innocent of drug charges Wednesday after telling a court-martial he thought the steroids he had taken were legal.

Spence wept and begged teammate Jon Wilson when the verdict was read. He declined to speak to reporters, but his civilian attorney, Serge Herscovici, said Spence hopes to return to the academy football team.

Prosecutor Capt. Garrett Condon had accused Spence of engaging in "a locker room drug deal" that went bad.

Spence had signed a statement admitting he had used and used steroid methandrostenolone but testified that he didn't know he had broken the law.

"I never intended to possess or had knowledge of possession of illegal steroids. I only intended to possess legal steroids that you could buy in any health specialty store," Spence said.

His defense lawyers accused investigators of jumping to conclusions and interrogating Spence before lab tests showed the steroid was illegal.

Spence, 20, was a backup who played mostly on special teams last season. He was suspended from the team after the charges were filed. It was not immediately clear whether he would be reinstated.

Herscovici said Spence could face a one-year suspension from the NCAA.

Spence, a junior, faced up to 10 years' imprisonment if he had been convicted.

Three other cadets, including running back Mat-

Sports briefs

U.S. volleyball player gets suspended sentence

ATHENS, Greece — A U.S. Olympic volleyball player was given a 15-month suspended sentence Wednesday for assaulting an officer and resisting arrest.

Clay Stanley, who played at the University of Hawaii, said he was drunk at the time and apologized for Sunday's scuffle at a nightclub following the closing ceremony of the Olympics.

Stanley, who now lives in Greece and plays for a local team, also was charged with assaulting a pregnant woman during the scuffle but those charges were subsequently dropped.

Mytics place Holdswall on injured list

WASHINGTON — Chamique Holdswall was placed on the injured list Tuesday, meaning she's missed at least three games for the Washington Mystics.

Holdswall has not disclosed the nature of her health problem, which came up in late July and sidelined her for three of Washington's four games before the Olympic break. She is the WNBA's second-leading scorer behind Seattle's Lauren Jackson.

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Reports: Dismissal imminent in Bryant case

BY JON SARCHIE
The Associated Press

EAGLE, Colo. — Attorneys in the Kobe Bryant case hastily assembled behind closed doors in the courtroom Wednesday amid reports prosecutors will drop the rape charges against the NBA star.

The prosecution will drop the case as early as Thursday, according to media outlets including MSNBC, ABC and Court TV, all citing unidentified sources.

Prosecution spokeswoman Krista Flannigan declined to comment, as did attorneys for the 20-year-old accused. Defense attorneys did not immediately return calls seeking comment.

L. Lin Wood, an attorney handling the accused's federal civil lawsuit against Bryant, said that case was intact Wednesday.

"There has been no settlement of the civil lawsuit and there have been no discussions concerning a settlement," he said. He declined to comment when asked about the criminal case.

Bryant, 26, has said he had consensual sex with a then-19-year-old employee of a Vail-area resort where he stayed last summer. If convicted, the Los Angeles Lakers star would face four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation, and a fine up to \$750,000.

Reports that the prosecution was dropping the case surfaced as jury selection began to wrap up. Attorneys and District Judge Terry Ruckriegel had hoped to seat a 12-member jury this week, with opening statements coming next Tuesday.

Defense attorneys this week asked the judge to dismiss the assault charge, saying

prosecutors had refused to turn over details that could suggest Bryant is innocent. Court rules require prosecutors and defense attorneys to exchange evidence and witness opinions before trial, a process called discovery.

In a motion made public Wednesday, defense attorneys said a forensics expert whom prosecutors had planned to call as a witness had information that "undermined the accuser's allegations and the prosecution's case, and corroborated Mr. Bryant's defense on a central issue — the cause and significance of the accuser's alleged injuries."

The filing said those opinions were not disclosed to the defense until they contacted the expert Friday, despite repeated requests to prosecutors for the information. Prosecutors have said they have turned over all information they were required to.

"A person's life and liberty are at stake," the defense attorneys wrote. "The game of hide-the-ball, find-it-if-you-can discovery is intolerable. This court must vindicate Mr. Bryant's constitutional rights and impose meaningful sanctions against the prosecution."

The motion does not identify the expert, but prosecutors this spring had said they planned to call former New York City medical examiner Michael Baden to testify about the woman's injuries.

District Attorney Mark Hurlbert said during a July 19 hearing he had decided against using Baden. He did not elaborate.

The defense motion was first reported by ABC News, which cited unidentified sources who said Baden told prosecutors the woman's injuries could have been caused by consensual sex. Baden did not return messages Wednesday.

Stylish Serena reaches third round of U.S. Open

BY HAL BOCK
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wearing what she described as her "micro-mini" outfit, third-seeded Serena Williams advanced to the third round of the U.S. Open on Wednesday with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Lindsay Lee-Waters.

It was not easy, the former Open champion said.

"It was a great test," Williams said. "She hits the living daylight out of the ball. She was killing everything."

Williams said she felt at ease in the first two rounds of the Open, relaxed and calm with nothing to lose.

And as for her outfit — a black, studded tank top that revealed her midriff and matching tight shorts — she simply smiled.

"I have another surprise for the next match," she said.

Second-seeded Amelie Mauresmo almost got surprised, dropping the first set to Julia Vakulenko. But Mauresmo recovered to win the match 3-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Mauresmo overcame 34 unforced errors and 10 double faults and finished the match with her fourth ace.

"I started very slow in the first set," said Mauresmo, who won the silver medal at Athens. "I'm looking forward to improve my game because I am not satisfied now."

Gustavo Kuerten, the former

French Open champion who was seeded No. 20, was a first-round loser, beaten by Kristian Pless 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (4). Kuerten was done in by 40 unforced errors.

Earlier, fourth-seeded Lleyton Hewitt began his Open with an efficient 6-1, 7-5, 6-4 victory over Wayne Ferreira in the 57th and final Grand Slam tournament for the veteran South African.

Hewitt prevailed comfortably and when it was over, Ferreira, 32, confirmed that he's done with tournament tennis.

"I've been doing this a long time," he said. "It's difficult to get up and train as hard as I'd like to. It's time for me to move on and do something else."

Ferreira made 43 unforced errors and never had a break-point opportunity against Hewitt, the 2001 champion who arrived at the Open coming off two straight championships and has won four events this year.

Just as Hewitt was finishing off Ferreira, Mark Philippoussis was forced to retire in the fifth set against Nikolay Davydenko when his body betrayed him again.

Philippoussis, a finalist at the Open in 1998, has battled a litany of knee injuries. There have been three operations on his left knee and he has synthetic cartilage in the knee. Tendinitis in the knee led to a first-round defeat at the Olympics against Oliver Rochus, but this time the trouble was in his left hip.



Serena Williams returns a shot to Lindsay Lee-Waters at the U.S. Open in New York on Wednesday. Williams beat Lee-Waters 6-4, 6-3.

After winning the first set 6-1, Philippoussis split the next two. At 4-4 in the fourth, he called for the trainer. Laying face down on the court, he grimaced as the hip

was massaged. He lost the set and it just seemed a matter of time before he would be forced to retire.

Once dismissed as a serious player when he lost 21 straight matches, No. 23 Spadea posted his first win at the Open since 2002 by defeating Luis Horna 6-7 (3), 6-2, 6-4, 6-4. He has lost in the first or second round of this Grand Slam event seven times, including his first three appearances. His ranking dipped to 229 in 2000, in the midst of his losing streak.

But Spadea stayed with his game, battling his way back. He won his first career title at Scottsdale earlier this year and even though he made 50 unforced errors, he won the match and that was something he wasn't always able to say.

Earlier, Daniela Hantuchova took another step back up the tennis rankings ladder, defeating No. 17 Alicia Molik 6-4, 6-3.

Ranked as high as No. 5 in the world last year, Hantuchova had tumbled to No. 32 and was facing a formidable opponent in Molik, who came into the Open with the bronze medal from the Athens Olympics.

But Hantuchova, a runner-up at Eastbourne and a quarterfinalist at the Open warmup in New Haven, used effective drop shots and played confident, aggressive tennis to pull off the upset. She was almost flawless on her approaches to the net, winning 17 of 20 points.

Beaten by Patty Schnyder at Athens, Hantuchova looked deadlier than she had in her first round match, when she dropped the first set and then came from behind to defeat Camille Pin, winning the last two sets in tiebreakers.

There was no need for those kind of dramatics against Molik.

Hantuchova next plays No. 15 Schnyder, who defeated Ivetta Benesova 6-4, 6-1. In other early matches, No. 31 Maria Ventura-Kabchi defeated Julia Scherz 6-1, 2-6, 6-2 and No. 12 Ai Sugiyama defeated Gisela Dulko 6-2, 6-4. Dulko beat Martina Navratilova at both the French Open and Wimbledon this year.

No. 14 Fernando Gonzalez, a double medalist at the Olympics, made a quick exit, losing to Robin Soderling 6-1, 7-6 (3), 6-7 (4), 6-1. Gonzalez won the doubles gold with Nicolas Pietrangeli and the singles bronze at Athens.

Also, No. 12 Sebastian Grosjean defeated Olivier Patience 7-5, 6-7 (6), 6-2, 6-1 and Tomas Berdych, who defeated No. 1 Roger Federer in the Olympics, beat No. 32 Jonas Bjorkman 6-3, 2-6, 6-2, 1-6, 6-3.

On Tuesday night, Maria Sharapova of Russia came within one game of becoming the first Wimbledon women's champion to lose in the first round of the U.S. Open.

Sharapova she steered herself to win 12 of the last 14 points and got past Laura Granville 6-3, 5-7, 7-5.

"My game went off for a while. I went to La-La Land," the 17-year-old Siberian-turned-Florentine said, "but I came back to Earth."

See scores on Page 24.

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DBs Woodson, Sanders report for duty

Raiders' corner ends holdout, signs tender

The Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Charles Woodson's monthlong holdout didn't yield the "boat load of money" he said he was looking for, so it was time to show up at Oakland Raiders' training camp. Woodson signed a one-year tender for \$8.782 million on Tuesday, joining the team for the first time after a 33-day holdout.

"I think everybody is just ready for me to get in here, and get into the thick of things and get ready to play football," he said.

"The players, they understand my side. The coaches, all of them have been through it before with other players, so this is nothing new to anybody. I'm not the first to do this and I certainly won't be the last. I think right now everybody is just ready for me to get out there and play ball."

Woodson wanted a long-term deal and hoped the leverage of a holdout would force the Raiders to negotiate with him. But before he could talk about another deal or come to camp, he had to sign the tender offer.

The Raiders placed the franchise tag on Woodson in February. The 27-year-old Woodson, who's entering his seventh pro season, reportedly wants to be the highest paid cornerback in the NFL.

"I'd be lying if I said it wasn't about the money," Woodson said. "What player doesn't want to make a boat load of money? I'm one of those players. It isn't just for the money. I'm still going to make great money by any measure this year. We'll see what happens."

Woodson, who also missed all the offseason minicamps, participated in practice and meetings while he tried to catch up with his teammates.

"He says he's doing a lot of running," coach Norv Turner said.

"That's the endurance part of it. Obviously, when you start covering people, change of direction and all that, it's totally different. But he looked really good. He's awful quick. He uses his hands extremely well. He looked real good."

Turner said Woodson didn't play in Thursday's exhibition finale against St. Louis. Woodson, however, expects to be in the starting lineup when the team opens the regular season on Sept. 12 at Pittsburgh.

"That's my plan," he said. "I don't want to be around and not be playing or starting. So I'm going to do everything I can to get myself ready so... when we play Pittsburgh, I'll be the starter."

Raiders: After three seasons away from the NFL, Deion Sanders signed with Baltimore on Tuesday.

The seven-time Pro Bowl cornerback passed his physical and signed a one-year contract laden with incentives. He will practice with the team for the first time

Wednesday, and expects to play in the Ravens' season opener Sept. 12 against the Cleveland Browns.

Sanders, 37, played corner in his prime, but will be used as a fifth defensive back in Baltimore.

"This game is not all that complicated. We're going to try to ingrain him as quickly as we can," Ravens coach Brian Billick said Tuesday morning. "We have to make sure we know where he's at physically. He's here plenty early enough to have an impact."

Sanders has not played since the 2000 season with the Washington Redskins. He retired on the eve of the team's training camp in 2001, but the Ravens are convinced he's still got enough talent to contribute to their bid to defend the AFC North title and advance to the Super Bowl.

Bucs/Giants: Tampa Bay sent guard Jason Whittle to the Giants for an undisclosed draft choice, returning the guard to the team with which he began his career.

Whittle played for New York from 1998-2002, starting all 14 games he played his final year. He signed last March as a free agent with the Bucs, where he started five games.

The Bucs cut 15 players, including Jason Garrett, who joined them as a free agent from the Giants this year. The 38-year-old Garrett played 11 seasons in the NFL with the Jets and New York, starting nine of the 40 games in which he appeared.

The Giants also waived placekicker Bill Gramatica, brother of Bucs' kicker Martin Gramatica. That makes Todd France New York's kicker.

France, 24, came to training camp third on the depth chart behind two-time incumbent Matt Bryant and Bill Gramatica.

Bryant was waived on the opening day of camp after reporting with a hamstring injury. Gramatica was the No. 1 kicker for the opening preseason game, but he developed back spasms and that opened the door for France.

Cardinals: The Cardinals acquired running back Troy Hambrick and defensive end Peppi Zellner on Tuesday in a trade with the Oakland Raiders.

The Cardinals gave the Raiders an undisclosed conditional 2005 draft pick, the team announced. Hambrick entered the league with the Dallas Cowboys in 2000 as an undrafted rookie free agent out of Savannah State and started all 16 games for Dallas last season.

He rushed for 972 yards and five touchdowns last year, but was released by the Cowboys on May 13 and signed with the Raiders four days later.

Zellner also broke into the league with the Cowboys. He was drafted by Dallas in 1999. He spent the 1999-2002 seasons with the Cowboys. He played in 16 games for the Redskins a year ago.

Seahawks: Reserve outside linebacker D.D. Lewis was placed on injured reserve Tuesday, ending his 2004 season.

Lewis is scheduled to undergo additional surgery on his left shoulder on Thursday. He never fully recovered from offseason surgery on the shoulder and had been out since Aug. 14.

He was being counted on to start for Chad Brown, who is expected to miss the first four games of the regular season with a broken left leg. Dolphins: Miami signed veteran defensive end Chidi Ahanotu on Wednesday.

The 33-year-old Ahanotu played in all 16 games with the San Francisco 49ers last season, starting one game and recording 30 tackles and four sacks. Ahanotu has spent 11 years in the NFL with Tampa Bay, St. Louis, Buffalo and San Francisco.

He will help fill out the defensive end corps that lost Adewale Ogumuyi, last season's AFC sack leader. A holdout in training camp, Ogumuyi was traded to the Chicago Bears for wide receiver



Raiders cornerback Charles Woodson signed Oakland's one-year tender for \$8.782 million on Tuesday and ended a 33-day holdout.

Marty Booker.

Browns: A few days after complaining he hadn't played enough during the preseason and describing Cleveland's offense as "chaotic," quarterback Jeff Garcia said he has no regrets about being critical because that's what the starting quarterback is supposed to do.

"I'm just trying to do what's best for the team," Garcia said. "All I want is for this team to be

better. All I want is for me to be better. That's all I was saying."

Garcia's tone wasn't nearly so diplomatic last Saturday following the Browns' 21-19 win at Kansas City. Annoyed about only playing part of the first half and frustrated by his inability to get Cleveland's offense clicking, Garcia griped about a lack of playing time, bemoaned his own mistakes and lamented costly penalties.

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Finley returns to bite D-backs

Los Angeles wins in 13th inning on RBI double

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Steve Finley looked right at home in Arizona.

The former Arizona star, traded to Los Angeles on July 31, single-handedly did in his old teammates Tuesday night in his first game back at Bank One Ballpark.

Finley homered off Randy Johnson in the sixth, then hit a bases-loaded double in the 13th, driving in all four runs in the Dodgers' 4-1 victory over Arizona.

He hit 337 in his first month with the Dodgers, driving in 25 runs in 27 games.

"He's obviously made a huge difference already for us in a number of games, and I think he is going to continue to pay dividends for us," Dodgers manager Jim Tracy said.

Finley's return overshadowed another typical performance by Johnson: three hits, one run and 15 strikeouts in eight innings.

But, in what has become a team tradition, the five-time Cy Young Award winner suffered from a lack of run support. The team has scored two runs or fewer 10 times in a loss by its ace, who leads the majors with a 2.71 ERA.

Johnson increased his major league-leading strikeouts total to 242, and pushed his career total



to 4,113 — 23 shy of Steve Carlton's record for left-handers. It was Johnson's fourth straight game with at least 10 strikeouts, his 11th this year and 202nd of his career. Only Nolan Ryan (215) has had more games with double-digit strikeouts.

"He could be the Cy Young Award winner," Finley said. "I mean, when I was here there was at least five, six, seven games that he should have won that we just didn't score any runs."

Eric Gagne pitched two scoreless innings for the victory, which kept the first-place Dodgers 5½ games in front of San Francisco in the NL West.

Giants 9, Rockies 5: Yorvit Torrealba and Marquis Grissom homered, and Ray Durham hit a tiebreaking three-run double in San Francisco to help the Giants pull into a virtual tie with Chicago for the wild-card lead.

Barry Bonds went 1-for-2 with a double — which a fan caught by leaning over the center-field wall — and remained at 696 home runs.

Expos 8, Cubs 0: Livan Her-

nandez allowed three hits in eight scoreless innings, and Brad Wilkerson and Maicer Irujo hit home runs at Olympic Stadium.

Chicago has lost four of five after losing just once in its previous nine games.

Mark Prior (4-4) allowed four runs in the first, including Wilkerson's leadoff homer. The Chicago starter gave up six hits and five runs in five innings.

Marlins 5, Mets 0: At New York, Josh Beckett pitched a six-hitter for his first regular-season shutout.

It was the Marlins' fifth straight win and eighth in 10 games, moving them to within three games of the wild-card lead.

Beckett (6-8) won for only the second time since May 20, when he beat Houston 4-3. He also drove in a run with a bases-loaded walk.

Cardinals 9, Padres 3: Jim Edmonds homered twice at Busch Stadium, giving him seven in six games.

Albert Pujols and Edgar Renteria also homered and had three hits each for the NL Central leaders. Reggie Sanders also had three hits and an RBI.

Woody Williams (10-7) became



AP

Arizona Diamondbacks' Randy Johnson struck out 15 over eight innings but was left with a no-decision despite allowing just one run.

the fifth member of the Cardinals' rotation to reach double figures in victories.

Brewers 4, Pirates 2: The Brewers won at home to snap a 12-game losing streak and avoid the worst month in franchise history.

The Brewers went 6-21 in August, barely avoiding their worst month in franchise history — 6-22 by the Seattle Pilots in August 1969. Still, it was their worst month since moving to Milwaukee in 1970, displacing the 6-20 mark from July 2001.

Matt Wise (1-1) pitched 3½ scoreless innings for the win.

Braves 5, Phillies 3: Mike Hampton (11-9) pitched two-hit ball over eight innings to improve to 10-2 in his past 12 starts.

Andrew Jones hit a two-run homer for the visiting Braves, 20-8 in August.

Streaking

Astros rout Reds again

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Lance Berkman hit a tie-breaking home run in the fifth inning and Jeff Kent capped a five-run seventh with a grand slam as the Houston Astros extended their season-best winning streak to six games with a 9-3 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday.

In sweeping the three-game series against the Reds, the Astros hit 10 home runs and scored 28 runs. Houston has won 14 of its last 17 games.

Roy Oswalt (16-9) improved to 10-0 in 14 career games against Cincinnati. He left after six innings with sore ribs, allowing three runs and six hits, walking three and striking out four.

Paul Wilson (9-5), who came off the disabled list earlier in the day, failed in his eighth attempt to earn his 10th win. He allowed four runs and six hits in five innings.

With two out in the fifth, Berkman hit his fourth homer of the series and 25th of the season to break a 3-all tie.

On Tuesday, Kent homered twice and Houston hit three straight shots in the fifth inning off Aaron Harang (8-7) in its 8-0 victory over the Reds.

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Yankees thrashed by Indians in epic loss

By RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The hits and runs kept coming, spinning by on the scoreboard as fast as symbols on a slot machine.

It wasn't just a rout, it was an epic defeat, the most one-sided in the 101-year history of the New York Yankees. Cleveland's 20 victory Tuesday night matched the biggest post-1900 shutout margin in the major leagues, Pittsburgh's win at the Chicago Cubs on Sept. 16, 1975.

There's a certain element of embarrassment, no question," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "It's hard to handle. It's something you have to bounce back from."

New York's \$180 million collection of All-Stars led the AL East by 10½ games on the morning of Aug. 16 and was expected to romp to its seventh straight division title. Now the Yankees are just 3½ games ahead of Boston for the first time since the morning of June 19. The Red Sox beat Anaheim 10-7 on Tuesday night for their 19th win in 23 games.

Omar Vizquel had six hits to tie the American League record for a nine-inning game, and Javier Vazquez (13-8) was knocked out after 1½ innings, matching the shortest outing of his major league career.

Cleveland set a record for runs by an opponent in a Yankees' home game, finishing two shy of the most ever against the proud franchise, winner of a record 26 World Series titles.

After watching his original hometown team make the Yankees resemble hapless Little Leaguers, New York owner George



Few fans remain in the bottom of the ninth inning as the Cleveland Indians beat the New York Yankees 22-0 Tuesday in New York, the Yankees' worst home loss ever.

Steinbrenner refused to answer questions as he departed the ballpark. On Wednesday, he issued a statement.

"Sure, we got punished badly last night, but winners never quit and quitters never quit," Steinbrenner said. "New Yorkers never quit, and we reflect the spirit of New York."

Cleveland, which had lost eight straight games at Yankee Stadium since June 2001, scored three runs in each of the first three innings, then added six in the fifth. Jose Gerut and Victor Martinez hit three-run homers off Esteban Loaiza in the ninth.

"It's one game," the Yankees' Alex Rodriguez said. "If we win 22-0, we're not going to get credit for three victories."

New York had never lost by more than 18 runs, falling 24-6 at Cleveland on July 29, 1928, and 19-1 at home against Detroit on June 17, 1925.

"They've got to come out here with a different attitude," Posada said of his teammates. "We can't worry about the Red Sox. We've got to worry about us, what we can do here."

Cleveland had season highs for runs and hits (22) and set a team record for largest shutout victory. Jake Westbrook (12-6) improved to 6-1 in his last nine starts, allowing five hits in seven innings. Jeremy Guthrie finished with hitless relief, extending the scoreless streak by Cleveland pitchers to 21 innings.

Vazquez, his head bowed and wiping sweat off his face as he walked off to boss, gave up six runs. The Indians scored seven off Tanyon Sturtz and three coming off J.C. Nitkowski.

"I thought I had good stuff today coming into the game," said Vazquez, 2-4 in eight starts following New York losses.

His stuff was good for Cleveland, which moved back over .500 at 67-66 and remained seven games behind AL Central leader Minnesota.

By the fifth, every Indians batter had scored and the top eight in the order all had RBIs.

"Our goal is to make a final run at this thing," Indians manager Eric Wedge said.

Travis Hafner hit a three-run triple in the third, Coco Crisp homered and drove in three runs, and Vazquez and Martinez had four RBIs each. Vizquel had a chance for a seventh hit, but flied out in the ninth.

"Every at-bat, you try to do what fits the situation," he said. "I just happened to put the ball in play every time."

New York, booed early and often by the crowd of 51,777, has lost five straight home games for the first time since May 2003. Its season is beginning to resemble 1978 in reverse. The Yankees dropped to fourth place and trailed the Red Sox by 14 games after play on July 21 that year, then rebounded to win the AL East in a one-game playoff.

The largest lead held by a team that failed to finish first was 11 games by the 1995 California Angels, according to Elias. "The job is to be negative, is to look at the dark side," Torre told reporters. "In this clubhouse, we don't do that."

Boston keeps pressure on New York in AL East

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox looked at the out-of-town scoreboard and could hardly believe what they saw.

The New York Yankees were trailing big at home against the Cleveland Indians in what would be the worst loss in the 101-year history of the storied franchise.

Red Sox outfielder Dave Roberts said he simply smiled when he saw the 22-0 final team cut in its deficit in the AL East to 3½ games after a 10-7 victory over Anaheim.

Manly Ramirez homered twice, Curt Schilling moved into the 22 for the major league lead with 17 wins and Boston won its season-high seventh straight.

There's still a long way to go," Roberts said. "Our destiny is in our hands, and that's what's important."

Still, the Red Sox refuse to start thinking about overtaking the Yankees for first place.

"We're playing great, the Yankees are having trouble," Schilling said. "But I don't expect them to fall down on the job. They were good enough to put 10½ games between us. We're going to need some help to catch up."

Cleveland did its part, matching the largest shutout win in the

majority since 1900, set by Pittsburgh against the Chicago Cubs on Sept. 16, 1975.

The Red Sox took a 2½-game lead over the Angels in the AL wild-card race. Anaheim had won 10 of 11.

Schilling (17-6) shut down Anaheim on three runs and nine hits, striking out four in 7½ innings to match Oakland's Mark Mulder for the major league lead in wins.

"If we just stay focused on what we're going to do daily base here and take care of our jobs and play the game the way we're playing it, offensively and defensively and pitching, I think we're going to do all right," Schilling said.

John Lackey (11-11) lasted just 3½ innings — the first time in 12 starts he failed to go at least five innings.

Keith Foulke got the last three outs for his 25th save.

Athletics 7, White Sox 2: Rich Harden (9-5) pitched seven solid innings to help visiting Oakland match a season-high with its eighth straight win.

Adam Melhuse homered for the A's, who won for the 13th time in 14 games and extended their lead in the AL West to three games over Anaheim.

Twins 8, Rangers 5 (11): At Minneapolis, Torii Hunter hit a three-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the 11th and finished with a career-high six RBIs for the Twins, who maintained their seven-game lead over Cleveland in the AL Central.



Manny Ramirez, right, is welcomed home by Boston teammate Johnny Damon (18) after the first of his two home runs Tuesday.

Alfonso Soriano and Rod Barajas had two RBIs each for Texas, which dropped 4½ games behind Oakland in the AL West — the most the club has been out of first place this season.

Mariners 7, Blue Jays 5: Seattle rallied at SkyDome for its season-high fifth straight victory, with Ichiro Suzuki getting three hits to finish with 56 in August, the most in a month by a major league since Jeff Heath had 58 in August 1938, according to Elias Sports Bureau.

Orioles 10, Devil Rays 6 (12): Melvin Mora and Jay Gibbons homered in the 12th to win it for visiting Baltimore.

Tampa Bay's Aubrey Huff homered twice with two in the ninth, then tied it again with an RBI single in the 11th.

Royals 9, Tigers 8: At Kansas City, Mo., Aaron Golauf's sacrifice fly capped a three-run rally in the bottom of the ninth for the Royals.

Giambi back in N.Y., but return uncertain

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jason Giambi walked into the New York Yankees' clubhouse Tuesday with pink in his cheeks, optimism in his voice and no idea when he'll be able to play again.

After former AL MVP, recovering from a benign tumor, intestinal parasite, strained groin and respiratory infection, saw teammates for the first time since July 27, when he left the Yankees in Toronto for tests that diagnosed the tumor.

He had been working out since Aug. 11 at the team's complex in Tampa, Fla., and started taking batting practice Sunday.

"I made some big strides," said Giambi, who received hugs from teammates welcoming him back. "Over the last three days, I was able to hit and take some live BP. It got me encouraged that there's a shot."

Yankees manager Joe Torre isn't counting on having the five-time All-Star back in New York's lineup this season but said it's possible Giambi could return in about 10 days as a designated hitter.

Angels activate Galaraga
BOSTON — The Red Sox is back in the big leagues.

The Anaheim Angels purchased the contract of 43-year-old Andres Galaraga from Triple-A Salt Lake of the Pacific Coast League on Wednesday.

Briefs

Galaraga appeared in 25 games with the Stingers, batting .304 with four homers and 19 RBIs. He was diagnosed with a recurrence of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma last November, which caused him to miss the entire 1999 season. He underwent surgery in November and had a stem cell transplant in February.

Top Diamondbacks draft pick withdraws from Florida State

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Stephen Drew, Arizona's top draft pick, decided to withdraw from classes at Florida State on Tuesday and continue contract negotiations with the Diamondbacks.

Drew, selected with the 15th pick in June's amateur draft, signed up for classes last week but wasn't scheduled to attend until Tuesday.

The Diamondbacks would have lost their rights to Drew if he attended a class before agreeing to a contract.

Cardinals' Kline out 3-4 weeks

ST. LOUIS — Cardinals reliever Steve Kline will be sidelined three to four weeks with a torn groin, but hopes to recover in time for the postseason.

The left-hander was placed on the 15-day disabled list on Saturday.

SPORTS



Reports: Prosecution to drop
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The drive for five

Yokota chasing 40th straight win, 'one for the thumb'

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

Two numbers loom large as the Yokota Panthers prepare to open the 2004 Japan Football League season:

40: A victory Saturday over Robert D. Edgren would give Yokota its Pacific-record 40th straight triumph on the field, breaking the Panthers' own record set from 1983-90. The only blemishes on their record during the streak are two forfeits during the 2002 season for using an ineligible player.

5: Or "one for the thumb," as Panthers assistant Matt Grant likes to say. Should Yokota capture the JFL title, its sixth straight since coach Tim Pujol took over the team in 1999, the Panthers would host the Rising Sun Bowl All-Japan championship, which they've won four straight years.

But much remains to be done before Yokota can even think of record-making feats.

"We've got so much work in front of us with this group. Our focus is on preparing for the first game being the start of a new season," Pujol said.

Though Yokota is long on skill-position players, with senior quarterback Shawn Novak back at the controls and speedy, shifty senior Chris Roach in the backfield, Pujol's team must rebuild its offensive and defensive lines, decimated by graduation.

"You have to walk before you can run," Pujol said.

Yokota begins that run as the JFL and Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools kick off the 2004 season this weekend.

Friday's opener for both leagues sees Zama American at Nile C. Kinnick, in a battle of two teams that tied for second on both circuits a season ago. Zama, Kinnick, Edgren and Yokota will play a double round-robin schedule, with the JFL winner to host the Rising Sun Bowl Nov. 13.

American School In Japan, the only non-Department of Defense Dependents Schools entity on the block, plays only for Kanto bragging rights and is not eligible for the Rising Sun Bowl.

One reason for Yokota optimism came Aug. 21, when the Panthers shut out Seibo-gakuen, a Japanese high school team, 41-0 in a pre-season scrimmage.

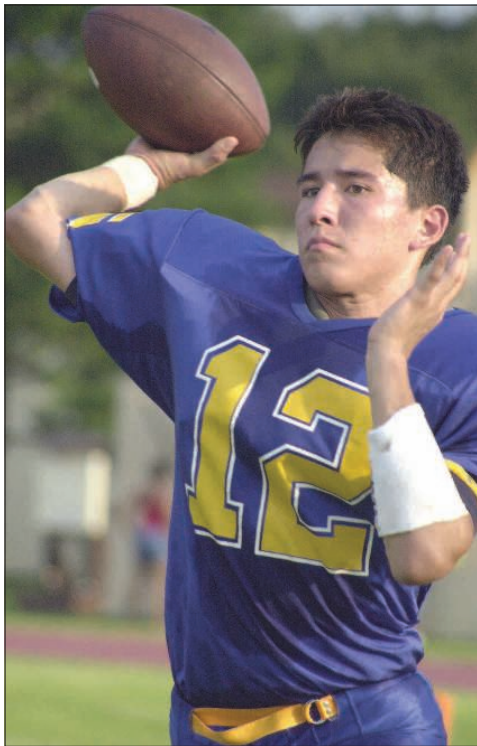
SEE DRIVE ON PAGE 25

More prep football on Page 25:

■ Team-by-team capsules
for JFL/Kanto Plain

■ Japan season schedule

■ Guam High football preview



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Senior QB Shawn Novak is a vital cog in the Yokota Panthers' bid for their Pacific-record 40th straight victory on the field, their sixth straight Japan Football League/Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools titles and their fifth straight Rising Sun Bowl title. Novak went 31-for-53 for 620 yards, nine touchdowns and three interceptions in coach Tim Pujol's run-oriented offense.

■ Coming Sept. 17: Okinawa high school football preview



**Bronx blowout:
Indians hand
Yankees worst
home loss ever**

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**Serena Williams'
fashion sense,
court sense
on display in
U.S. Open victory**

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**U.S. team goes
head-to-head
with Canada,
comes up short
in World Cup**

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Coming Saturday: College football overview In Stripes Timeout

